Hafa Adai!

Court grants one-year restraining order against Camacho. PAGE 2
Cui found in contempt for failing to provide iCloud login. PAGE 4

$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXI, Issue No. 222

www.saipantribune.com | TUESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2021 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

'Ill-informed, ill-managed, irresponsible'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Babauta

Torres

» Torres asks Babauta, JGO to provide him questions, concerns in writing

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres came out swinging yesterday, lambasting Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) and members of the NMI Democratic Party for allegedly turning the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee's investigation into an "ill-informed, ill-managed, and irresponsible political showmanship."

"We cannot allow perpetual harassment

See ILL-INFORMED on Page 4

CNMI total now at 351; 2 more deaths in Guam

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. announced Sunday that one individual was identified and confirmed positive for COVID-19 from travel

See CNMI on Page 4

Schools take lead role in promoting vaccines for kids

By PAT EATON-ROBB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

With the approval of the COVID-19 vaccine for younger children, many elementary schools around the U.S. are preparing to offer the shots, which educators see as key to keeping students learning in person and making the

See SCHOOLS on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6:03pm, Nov. 8, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated:	84%
Days since last community transmission	2

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	31,070
Fully Vaccinated:	29,972
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,911
Fully Vaccinated:	4,745
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	904

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	18,683	5	18,688
Recovered	15,781	22	15,803
Active	2,631	5	2,636
Deaths	247	2	249

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	350	1	351
Traced via Travel Screening	258	1	259
Traced via Community Screening	92	0	92
Deaths	3	0	3

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

COVID TESTING

Drone footage taken in Marpi yesterday shows people in cars lining up for COVID-19 testing at the former Mariana Resort & Spa. According to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., it will happen again this Wednesday at the former Mariana Resort & Spa from noon to 3pm. Drone footage taken by licensed commercial drone pilot BJ Eddy. Check out his YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/mydiGis7xwY.

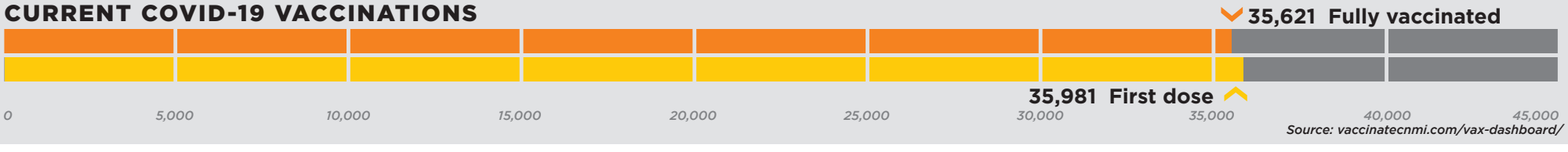
BJ EDDY

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

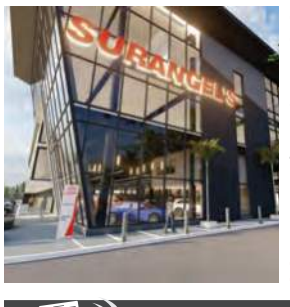
Source: Office of the Governor

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Ksau's Motors, a division of Surangel and Sons Co., Toyota's official retailer for Palau.

PAGE 11

WORLD

An oil tanker truck exploded near Sierra Leone's capital, killing at least 98 people.

PAGE 13

LIFE & STYLE

A new book on the work of Richard and Karen Carpenter focus on their harmonic creations.

PAGE 15

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Court grants one-year restraining order against Camacho

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Superior Court has granted a one-year temporary restraining order against Rep. Vicente Camacho (D-Saipan), among others, for his alleged involvement in beating a 59-year-old man in China Town back on Oct.r 29.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho granted a one-year restraining order against Camacho following a hearing yesterday in the complaint filed by Steven Koch, a 59-year-old man who works as a master electrician at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Camacho

Pursuant to the restraining order, Vicente Camacho is prohibited from coming within 200 feet of Koch, his wife Magdalena, and their daughter Melanie; this includes their residence in China Town and their place of employment, specifically the Francisco C. Ada/ Saipan International Airport and the DCCA Childcare Development Fund.

Camacho, through his lawyer, Michael White, asked the court to amend the restrictions in the restraining order to allow the lawmaker to use Airport Road because he takes that road to visit family.

In addition, he also asked to be allowed to use the road near DCCA as there are government offices up there that he may need to visit within the year, and to also allow him to go to the China Town residence just to pick up his son whose babysitter lives there.

The judge granted Camacho's request to take Airport Road and the road near DCCA as long as it isn't to harass or stalk the victims. However, the judge said Vicente Camacho has no reason to be in the residence for the time being and should refrain from going up there.

Rep. Vicente Camacho (D-Saipan), right, exits a Superior Court courtroom following a hearing regarding a restraining order filed against him. At left is Camacho's lawyer, Michael White.
KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Vicente Camacho conceded to the conditions of the restraining order following the court granting his requested amendments.

Meanwhile, the court also imposed a one-year restraining order on Ignacio Concepcion, Koch's brother-in-law, and prohibited him from coming within 150 feet of Koch. Also, the judge ordered Concepcion to stay within his property whenever Koch or his family uses Freedom Drive to get to and from their home within the Concepcion family compound.

According to the restraining order filed by attorney Charity Hodson on behalf of her client, Koch, his wife Magdalena, and his daughter Melanie sought the emergency order for protection because they claim they are victims of domestic violence by Camacho and Concepcion.

"They are terrified and fear for their personal safety and desire to prevent any further violence and harassment upon them," said Hodson.

The temporary restraining order, which was signed by Superior Court Associate Judge Wesley Bogdan last week, was served to Camacho at around 3:52pm last Wednesday at the Oleai Beach Bar & Grill.

Camacho was arrested last Nov. 2 for one count of assault and battery and one count of disturbing the peace pursuant to the complaint filed by Koch. He was released the same night after posting a cash bail of $1,250.

He is set to be arraigned on Nov. 16.

Upcoming NMC info session postponed

Northern Marianas College's info session for the College's Liberal Arts (Emphasis in Social Work) program on Nov. 9 has been postponed until a later date.

Individuals who would like to learn more about NMC's upcoming spring 2022 semester can visit the NMC website at www.marianas.edu or by emailing oar@marianas.edu. The application deadline for new students is on Dec. 1, 2021.

New and returning students are also reminded of the following scholarship deadlines:

- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid: Dec. 2, 2021** (Students who have submitted a FAFSA for the fall 2021 semester do not need to re-submit one for the Spring 2022 semester.)
- **Saipan Higher Financial Education Assistance: Dec. 1, 2021**
- **CNMI Scholarship: Dec. 15, 2021**

Those who need assistance with any of the applications can email the college's Financial Aid Office at fao@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

Navy fires 2 top officers of submarine damaged in collision

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Navy said Thursday it fired the two senior officers of a nuclear-powered attack submarine that was damaged in an underwater collision last month in the South China Sea. A sailor who served as a senior enlisted adviser to the commander and the executive officer was also removed from his position

The actions were taken by Vice Adm. Karl Thomas, commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, based in Japan.

"Thomas determined sound judgement, prudent decision-making and adherence to required procedures in navigation planning, watch team execution and risk management could have prevented the incident," according to a 7th Fleet statement.

As a result, the statement said Thomas relieved Cmdr. Cameron Aljilani as commanding officer, Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Cashin as executive officer, and Master Chief Sonar Technician Cory Rodgers as chief of the boat, "due to loss of confidence." The chief of the boat is the senior enlisted adviser to the commander and the executive officer.

'Some legislators don't know PUA process, yet criticize Labor to score political points'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Some lawmakers don't know the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program process, yet are quick to criticize to score political points, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres last Friday.

Rather than finding out what's going on and looking into how can they help, some legislators criticize the process instead, he added in response to a question raised during his regular radio briefing.

This comes in the wake of the U.S. Department of Labor Region 6 Office commending the CNMI Department of Labor for its implementation of PUA program, where it credited the CNMI Labor for implementing what it termed as seven "best practices." Some lawmakers have criticized CNMI Labor for allegedly being slow in handling and processing PUA benefits.

Citing the $481 million American Rescue Plan Act funds, Torres said they wish they could spend it in so many different avenues and start construction immediately. "But this is a process to that. PUA is no different," Torres pointed out.

With both PUA and ARPA, Torres said they were given guidelines by the federal government and that they will follow to those guidelines. He said they want to disseminate as much and as fast as they can, but there are federal guidelines to follow.

"There's misinformation. Sure, we weren't the fastest, and I want to admit, but at the end of the day, there's a process," Torres said.

He said if they were to process every applicant that came in, they would not be getting this kind of acknowledgment from USDOL.

Torres said this is a prime example of where some legislators should look at the issue, offer solutions, and follow through. "So you can help make that process better rather than just criticizing what's going on, and then later on, coming back to find out that our practice is actually the best practice that's been recommended by U.S. Department of Labor," the governor said.

'What we are seeing highlights need to be vaccinated'

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Contact tracing and investigation by the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. appear to show that clusters of new community cases of COVID-19 appear to be highest in households with children who were ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

This was learned from CHCC chief executive officer Esther L. Muña, who also said during Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' radio news briefing last Friday that it was still reassuring that secondary and tertiary contacts to these clusters are testing negative. She credited this to the CNMI's high vaccination numbers, saying that being vaccinated and in large numbers "has substantially reduced the burden of disease," prevented vaccinated individuals from contracting serious illnesses, and has helped interrupt the chains of COVID-19 transmission.

Muña reminded, though, that vaccinated individuals can still become infected and potentially spread the virus. This, however, happens at much lower rates compared to unvaccinated individuals, she said.

"What we are seeing underscores the need to vaccinate and protect not only yourself but others who are not vaccinated. …[The] CNMI having over 83% of eligible vaccinated and over 89% of adults already receiving their first dose [has] substantially reduced the burden of disease and prevented serious illness and interrupted the chains of transmission," said Muña.

She said she and CHCC are looking forward to receiving a shipment of over 2,000 pediatric doses of Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine intended for children aged 5-11, and added that many parents have already reached out to her asking how and when they can get their children vaccinated. These vaccines arrived last Saturday, and are currently available at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center vaccination site.

Torres wants CHCC to expedite vaccination of children

Now that the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has started giving Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 shots to children in the 5 to 11 age group, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres wants CHCC to expedite the vaccination process for children under this category.

Speaking at a press briefing Friday, Torres encouraged every household, teacher, parent, principal, and school administrator to get all children vaccinated and do it as soon as possible.

CHCC started administering the pediatric vaccines last Saturday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.

Torres said if CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muna needs more resources to get nurses to work with the school system for the vaccinations, then they will make sure that they provide such resources. "At the end of the day, we need to get our children vaccinated," he said.

Torres noted that the CNMI had already reached its goal of having at least 80% of its eligible population being fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Eligible population refers to those who are 12 years old and older.

Now that they're focusing more on the children, the Public School System and the private school system play a great role in the success, Torres said, because children are in school five days a week. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Cui found in contempt for failing to provide iCloud login

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has found former Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chair Cui Li Jie in contempt anew for her continued failure to comply with the court's previous order to preserve ESI data, this time by failing to provide the correct login information to her iCloud account.

District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona found Cui in contempt of court again for failing to provide backups of her electronically stored information or ESI and the correct login information to her iCloud account.

Manglona ordered Cui to file an explanation with the court this week for her failure to comply; otherwise, the court will impose a daily sanction of $500 until she does.

Manglona scheduled a status conference on the matter for Nov. 12, at 8am, adding that a written order would be issued.

During the status conference last Friday, Cui's lawyer, attorney Clyde Lemons, reported to the court via teleconference of his efforts in retrieve backup ESI data and gave notice of their intention to issue a subpoena.

After Manglona entered a contempt order against Cui, she then ordered Lemons to effectuate the issuance of the subpoena.

Attorney Joey San Nicolas, who also represents Cui, told the court that he will assist as local counsel in issuing the subpoena to comply with the court's order, adding that Cui is willing to assist and comply.

Manglona also awarded the plaintiffs attorneys' fees for having to pursue this specific portion of the order to show cause.

The plaintiffs, through attorney Aaron Halegua, have accused Cui of violating the contempt order previously issued by the court in the lawsuit of seven workers alleging labor abuses and human trafficking.

The plaintiffs in this case are Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Qingchun Xu, and Duxin Yan. They are represented by Halegua and Bruce Berline.

Cui is a third-party witness in the lawsuit of the seven construction workers against IPI and its former contractor and subcontractor, MCC International and Gold Mantis Construction Decoration, both of which have already settled with the plaintiffs.

'No evidence so far of wide community transmission'

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There is no evidence so far that would indicate that the community transmission of COVID-19 in the CNMI is widespread, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña last Friday, and she assured that the CNMI's ongoing response is going as planned and as intended.

"We do not have evidence that the community transmission of the virus is widespread. For every public health emergency, there is a recovery plan. Vaccinations, preventative measures implemented at schools, testing, isolation, [and] contact tracing [are] part of that plan. All of these tools prevent community widespread transmission, and that's what we're seeing," said Muña.

During a virtual news briefing last week, Stephanie Kern-Allely, who is a regional communicable disease epidemiologist for the Pacific Island Health Officers Association, said the same thing.

Kern-Allely said the CNMI's curve at the time did not indicate a spike in community transmission of COVID-19, and it was possible that the CNMI's high vaccination numbers may have slowed down the spread and may have helped "break the chain of transmission." Kern-Allely also said last week that the CNMI's high vaccination numbers help the CNMI "get close to herd immunity."

Herd immunity refers to a form of indirect disease/infection protection that is achieved when a certain percentage of a population has become immune to an infection either through vaccination or past exposure to an infection/disease, reducing the chances of community spread and allowing those with no immunity to remain healthy without receiving a vaccine shot or being exposed to the disease.

SCHOOLS

From Page 1

classroom experience closer to what it once was.

Some district leaders say offering vaccine clinics on campus, with the involvement of trusted school staff, is key to improving access and helping overcome hesitancy—particularly in communities with low overall vaccination rates.

Still, many school systems are choosing not to offer elementary schools as hosts for vaccination sites after some middle and high schools that offered shots received pushback.

More than 250 families signed up for vaccinations that began Thursday at elementary schools in Duluth, Minnesota, which organized clinics immediately after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention gave the final signoff to Pfizer's kid-size COVID-19 shot for children ages 5 to 11. Superintendent John Magas called the vaccines a "game changer."

"This brings us one step closer to moving from pandemic to endemic," Magas said. "It allows us to reconsider things like social distancing and masking and things like that as safety permits."

The Biden administration plans to send a letter to U.S. elementary schools in the next week asking them to host clinics. The Education Department is also urging schools to host town halls and webinars at which parents can talk to doctors about the vaccine.

Districts that have held or are planning clinics for younger children span Alaska to Vermont, said Hayley Meadvin, an Education Department senior adviser. Where schools choose not to host clinics, families can turn to doctor's offices, hospitals and other sites.

"There are many points of access, and there's no wrong door, honestly," Meadvin said.

In Ohio, some school districts offered on-site clinics for older students, but Rick Lewis, director of the Ohio School Boards Association, said they haven't heard from any districts planning them for younger students. He noted the CDC encourages districts to consider factors like local needs for school clinics and adequate community support.

School vaccine drives have faced pushback and protests in Ohio and elsewhere, and some opponents say they plan to keep up pressure as the focus of the vaccination effort shifts to younger students.

Sarah Kenney, who represents the group Mainers for Health and Parental Rights, argues that schools should not be getting involved or even talking to young children about the vaccine. She worries about its newness and potential for long-term side effects.

CNMI

From Page 1

testing, bringing the CNMI's total to 351.

In Guam, its Joint Information Center reported two COVID-19-related fatalities yesterday.

The one new case in the CNMI was found through fifth-day testing on Nov. 6 and the individual has since been quarantined and is being actively monitored, said CHCC.

CHCC also reported Sunday that since Oct. 28 there have been 60 new cases of COVID-19: 46 identified through contact tracing, 10 through community-based testing, and four identified through travel testing.

CHCC added that its Communicable Disease Investigation/ Inspection team has already reached out to those who were in closest contact with the new cases and that the team will continue its efforts "until all probable cases are identified and tested."

CHCC also said its contact tracers have reached out to contacts who are deemed high risk, and that "the associated risk of infection depends on the level of exposure, which will, in turn, determine the type of monitoring." CHCC added that establishing the level of exposure can be difficult and requires investigation.

In Guam, the 248th COVID-19-related fatality was pronounced dead on arrival at the Guam Regional Medical City on Nov. 6, 2021. The patient was female, age unknown, with unknown vaccination status and unknown underlying health conditions. She tested positive on Nov. 6, 2021.

The 249th COVID-19-related fatality was pronounced dead on arrival at the Guam Memorial Hospital on Nov. 6, 2021. The patient was a 56-year-old female, unvaccinated with unknown underlying health conditions. She tested positive on Nov. 6, 2021.

"While there are truly no words to bring relief when there is such great loss, Jeff, Josh, and I offer our condolences and sympathies to those that loved them," said Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. "Even in these hard times, do not forget the large part we have in preventing more days filled with grief—by referring to the basics and maintaining social distancing between yourself and others that are outside your household."

A COVID-19 positive patient whose death was reported as a COVID-19-related fatality on Nov. 5, 2021 was subsequently found not to be the result of COVID-19. Guam's Department of Public Health and Social Service Office of Epidemiology and Research has revised the COVID-19-related fatality count in Guam to 249.

For individuals in the CNMI experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, and new loss of taste or smell, CHCC asks those concerned to see their healthcare providers or call the CHCC Tele-Triage hotline at 670-233-2067.

ILL-INFORMED

From Page 1

and obstruction of the Legislature Branch on the Executive Branch be a norm in our system of government," said Torres in a letter to Babauta in which he also stated that the endless parading of allegations against him and his family for two years has produced nothing.

He said no governor has experienced this level of harassment and slander in the history of the CNMI and that he has endured the constant barrage of insults, lies, and personal assaults on his character out of respect for Babauta and the role of the Legislature.

Babauta chairs the JGO Committee, which is investigating Torres' expenditures of public funds and travels. Torres is with the NMI Republican Party.

As of press time yesterday, *Saipan Tribune* was still awaiting comments from Babauta.

Torres said if they do not end this "JGO debacle," no governor will be able to exercise their constitutional responsibility due to the action being taken today.

The governor asked the JGO to provide him with their list of questions in writing by Monday, Nov. 15, 2021. In turn, he said he will provide responses explaining the legality and the causes for his actions and decisions as expeditiously as possible.

"The members of your party may not like the answers, but I have no reason not to provide the truth," Torres said.

The governor said that members of the NMI Democratic Party have engaged for more than two years in a time-consuming, costly, and "blatantly politically motivated" effort to misinform the public of his record as governor. In that time, he said, he has provided members of the Democratic Party the courtesy of participation in their quest to forgo their responsibilities as legislators.

Torres said he has respected the role of the Legislature in recognizing its authority to reconvene an investigative panel during the first session of the 22nd CNMI Legislature to continue the public spectacle that resulted in no findings during the 21st CNMI Legislature.

He said it is clear from the JGO's actions, and the limited production of critical legislation from the Legislature, that the "constant barrage of misinformation and intimidation of honorable public servants" is quickly becoming the legacy of this Legislature.

"This legacy will serve to irreparably damage our democracy and system of governance if allowed to continue," Torres said, adding that misinforming the public has certainly produced wide media attention, but the fact remains that he has committed no crime while in office.

While painted negatively by members of Babauta's Democratic Party, he said his actions have consistently been in the interest of the people.

Torres said if there were any issues of substance discovered in the two years of the Democratic Party's search for wrongdoings, formal accusations should have been levied.

"Yet none exists," he said.

The governor also noted that under the House Rules of Procedure adopted by the 22nd Legislature, committees shall submit a written report to the House speaker within 60 days from the date a matter is referred to the JGO committee. That time period has long since elapsed, Torres said, and no report has been produced.

He said this is far greater than the irrational hatred members of the Democratic Party hold for him personally.

The governor said the JGO's actions are eroding the separation of powers inherent in the government's system and degrading the ability for the Executive Branch to adequately govern the Commonwealth.

Torres said his proposal for the JGO to put its questions and concerns in writing "is a course that will see this escapade to its ultimate conclusion before any further harm is performed on the CNMI's democracy."

He noted that on several occasions, he has expressed his interest in responding to the questions and concerns of the JGO members. "Yet you have chosen to continue this campaign of harassment and intimidation on public servants who have committed their lives to the betterment of our islands," the governor told Babauta.

Torres said the truth that has evaded the JGO committee is that he has done nothing wrong, that the public servants working for the public well-being at the Department of Public Safety, Department of Finance, and within his office, have done nothing wrong.

Inmate seeks hearing in his previous lawsuit against DOC

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Department of Corrections inmate wants the U.S District Court for the NMI to hold a hearing on his previous lawsuit against the department and its officials.

DOC inmate Price Shoiter, through attorney Michael Dotts, has asked the district court to schedule a hearing regarding his previous lawsuit against the department and its former and current officials.

Dotts requested the court to set a status conference for the purpose of determining if the defendants desire to proceed with the settlement agreement or if this matter should be placed back on calendar and scheduled for trial.

According to Dotts, the 74-year-old Shoiter executed a settlement agreement in this matter on Feb. 4, 2021, and the defendants all signed the settlement agreement by Feb. 11, 2021.

The settlement agreement was contingent on the governor's approval of the plaintiff's application for conditional clemency.

"If the governor did not grant the conditional clemency, then pursuant to Section 4.1.3 of the Settlement Agreement, the settlement was 'null and void' and the case was to be placed back on track for trial," Dotts said.

As of Nov. 1, 2021, nearly nine months after the plaintiff signed the settlement agreement, conditional clemency had not been granted, Dotts stated.

"Under Section 7 of the settlement agreement…the defendants were to make a payment to the plaintiff before his departure from the CNMI on Aug. 31, 2021. Now it is Nov. 1, 2021, and no payment has been made. A status conference would greatly benefit all parties by allowing them to consider the court's input on how to proceed with the case and, if necessary, placing the case back on calendar for a trial," Dotts said.

According to court documents, Shoiter was serving a 10-year prison term for sexually abusing a 7-year-old girl, when he sued Corrections officials for breaching a previous settlement agreement. He alleged that Corrections officials had continued to deny him adequate medical care.

Shoiter sought reparations for general, consequential, compensatory, and punitive damages; and a declaration that the defendants' actions violated his constitutional rights.

On Feb. 11, 2021, after receiving a notice of an agreement of dismissal from the parties, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Shoiter's complaint with prejudice.

In July 2021, the CNMI Parole Board recommended clemency for Shoiter, who is from Chuuk.

In his first amended complaint, Shoiter named as defendants former Corrections commissioner Vince S. Attao, directors Gregory Castro and Georgia Cabrera, and current Commissioner Wally Villagomez.

HALLOWEEN NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Sen. Vinnie Vinson F. Sablan, together with family members, pose for a group photo during a Halloween event "No Tricks, Just Treats" at the NMI Museum of History and Culture grounds in Garapan last Oct. 31. Children received candies and treats from participating governmental organizations, agencies, and businesses at the newly built huts on the museum grounds. The event featured a movie night inside the museum, while on the grounds there were Halloween contests, live music, dance, and a magic performance.

'MVA has always prioritized our community's safety'

With some in the community raising concerns about the CNMI's lack of pushback on the strict health protocols, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Iakopo insists that the agency's paramount concern is the CNMI community's safety.

Iakopo said that MVA's main priority is the safety of the community and follows the guidance and advice of the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force to ensure just that.

"Since Day 1 of the [Tourism Resumption Investment Plan] program, MVA has always prioritized the safety of our community and visitors. We seek guidance and follow the advice given to the MVA from the COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC. In addition, MVA meets with the task force and CHCC on a weekly basis," she said.

In the past week, the CNMI has seen a number of quarantine facilities open up, including Century Hotel, Mariana Resort and Spa, and the Pacific Islands Club Saipan. In addition, it was learned that construction has begun to turn the former Mango Resort into a hybrid quarantine facility.

With the travel bubble in place with South Korea, all incoming passengers and passengers participating in the CNMI-South Korea Travel Bubble are not exempted from the mandatory quarantine.

Currently, all travel bubble passengers are required to quarantine regardless of vaccination status.

"This is why travel bubble tourists are first quarantined at Pacific Islands Club Saipan for five days. After five days they are tested again. If they are still negative for COVID-19, that's when they can transfer to either of the two "corridor hotels": the Saipan World Resort or Kensington Hotel Saipan," said Iakopo. ***(Kimberly B. Esmores)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Water service outages in parts of Capital Hill, Papago

There is currently an emergency water service interruption that started yesterday, Nov. 7, 2021, at 7am that will last until 10am today, Nov. 8, 2021, in portions of Capital Hill and Papago along Isa Drive from Sarah Market to the Kagman Mobil gas station.

The emergency water outage is due to the isolation of a hydrant located on Isa Drive near the Capital Hill Market in Capital Hill. The hydrant was accidentally hit by a motorist and in order to minimize water loss from the damaged hydrant, the affected areas were isolated to stop the hydrant from leaking.

For more information, contact the CUC Call Center (670) 664-4282 or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https:!!www.facebook.com!CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation!). ***(PR)***

SINMI sets monthly meeting Wednesday

The Soroptimist International of the Northern Mariana Islands will hold its monthly luncheon meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 10, at noon at 360 Revolving Restaurant. Join us to help continue our work for the "Best for Women" in the CNMI! ***(PR)***

Free webinars on federal contracting

The Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center is offering free live webinars this month. Webinars run from 10am to 11:30am and will be conducted via Zoom. Links to the live webinar and the webinar evaluation will be emailed to all registered attendees 15 minutes before the start of the webinar.

■ Nov. 10, 2021-Federal Contract Opportunities-SAM.gov is the portal for Federal Contract Opportunities. The Guam PTAC will show you how to use the website to ensure you do not miss any opportunities. Types of opportunities, search filters, and search strategies will be discussed.

■ Nov. 18, 2021-Marketing to the Federal Government-The government buys products and services differently than the private sector. The Guam PTAC will discuss marketing strategies, essential documents, and how to get your company noticed by government buyers.

■ Nov. 24, 2021-Responding to Requests for Proposals (RFPs)-The Guam PTAC will walk participants through the common sections and clauses of an RFP as well as provide tips on developing a proposal in response to an RFP.

To register, visit: www.guamptac.com. ***(PR)***

SINCE 1914
Atkins Kroll
Long term reliability…..since 1914
(An Inchcape Company)

Are you looking for a long-established company that can offer

Competitive Wage
Medical/Dental Insurance Plan
401(K) Retirement Plan
Life Insurance
Long Term Disability Insurance
Paid Vacation
Paid Holidays
Paid Sick Leave
Employee Discount
Service Award Program
Performance Bonus Program
Advancement Opportunities
Annual Salary Review
Well Equipped Work Facility

If so, and you are interested in joining our team of professionals, Atkins Kroll has an opening for the following positions.

Automotive Technician II

Looking for an experienced Automotive Technician who is responsible for performing vehicle repair, service, diagnosis and/or maintenance work.

Qualification/Requirement: Must have 3-5 years of automotive diagnosis, repairs, and problem-solving experience. OEM Certification and ASE certification preferred. Working knowledge of machine and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance. Ongoing participation in educational and formal training. Continual compliance with federal and state regulations. Must be able to operate a manual transmission vehicle and possess a valid Saipan driver's license.

If you meet these qualifications apply in person at
Atkins Kroll, Inc.
#1 Chalan Monsignor Guerrero, Oleai, Saipan 96950
email your resume to **hr@akguam.net**

No phone calls please!

AK IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER • www.akguam.com

S. Korea travel to Saipan up 178.5%, says Korean ministry

» Overseas travel demand picking up, mostly to tourist spots

As overseas tourism slowly resumes with travel bubble programs and a rise in vaccination rates, travel to Saipan logged a sharp increase last month, data showed Sunday.

According to the Transport Ministry data, passengers going to Saipan from Incheon surged 178.5% in October to 3,900 passengers from 1,400 passengers in September.

Travel to Saipan also spiked in July when South Korea launched the travel bubble with the country, exempting fully vaccinated people from mandatory quarantine upon entry into each other's territory.

There were only 177 passengers flying to Saipan from Incheon in June, but that number rose to 363 in July and 405 in August.

Overall, around 309,000 passengers took off overseas from South Korean airports last month, up from 291,000 in September, the ministry said.

The airline industry, in response, is resuming more overseas flights.

Korean Air resumed scheduled flights to Hawaii, Sydney and Oakland, California.

It took 19 months for the airline to resume the route to Hawaii, Wednesday, as travel demand had plunged since the pandemic outbreak.

Asiana Airlines will operate two flights a week to Guam in December and is currently reviewing resumption of the route to Hawaii as well next month.

Korea's biggest budget carrier, Jeju Air, will resume flights to Guam from Incheon Airport starting Nov. 25.

Meanwhile, the number of passengers on domestic flights bounced back to pre-pandemic levels, with more than 3.28 million passengers flying last month, the highest monthly record this year. ***(The Korea Herald/Hong Yoo)***

Palauan obtains master's degree from Sophia U

TOKYO—Elchung Gladys Hideyos of Palau was recently awarded a master's degree in Global Environmental Studies from Sophia University.

She excelled during her two years of study in Tokyo, earning the highest marks of any student from the Micronesia region who has attended the historic Jesuit university as an APIC-Sophia University-Micronesia Conservation Trust Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge Scholar. Hideyos' thesis examined the role of women in fisheries management, conservation and policy in Palau.

Professor Anne McDonald of Sophia University's Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies praised Hideyos for her scholarship and commitment as a graduate student. "Your work was academically brilliant but done with heart and love of your country and people. I know you will go on to do great things for Palau and Micronesia, attaining goals you might never thought were possible, but are! You have what it takes to make a difference in the world. In fact, you've already started," McDonald said.

Elchung Gladys Hideyos of Palau obtains her master's degree in Global Environmental Studies from Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hideyos began her advanced studies shortly before the global novel coronavirus pandemic led to a series of emergency decrees in Tokyo. She completed her studies with a mix of traditional classroom work and remote learning via a computer from her dormitory room. Hideyos earned her bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies in 2018 from Chaminade University in Honolulu.

Hideyos said she was thankful for the opportunity to study in Japan. "Even with the challenges I faced in the last two years, I would say that this experience has opened my mind and humbled me. I learned a lot and was able to make connections with people from around the world, which is amazing being from such a small island country in the Pacific. I'm very grateful for this opportunity that was created for us Micronesian graduates," she said.

Four graduate students from the Micronesia-region are studying at the Tokyo university on an APIC-Sophia University-Micronesia Conservation Trust Scholarship. Five students, including Hideyos, have graduated with master's degrees. The highly competitive scholarship is funded by Sophia University, the Association for Promotion of International Cooperation, a Tokyo-based private foundation, and the Micronesia Conservation Trust's Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge Scholarship Fund. This is the fourth year that the all-expenses-paid scholarships are being offered.

APIC, Sophia University, and MCT partner to select current professionals from the Micronesia region to pursue graduate level degrees. Sophia University has committed to providing full tuition scholarships, APIC covers travel, room and board and a monthly allowance, and MCT, through the Bill Raynor Micronesia Challenge Scholarship Fund, covers the cost of internships for the scholars.

The scholarship aims to produce professionals who contribute to the development of effective conservation of Micronesia's biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, among other environmental issues contributing to the promotion of sustainable livelihoods across the region. The scholars focus on developing leadership and technical skills and/or majors that enhance their ability to carry out work in conservation, climate adaptation and sustainable development in Micronesia. So far all the student scholars have returned to their home countries and assumed leading positions in the workforce. ***(PR)***

Apatang: Growing population of stray dogs is one of our biggest concerns

» Local bill would require dog owners to be responsible for disposal of feces

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The population on the island of free-roaming dogs—or dogs that no one owns—is growing and that it is one of the biggest concerns of the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, according to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang.

Trying to keep this problem about roaming dogs under control is difficult, Apatang said, because people seem to have more compassion for them and let them linger in neighborhoods.

"Our experience in implementing the dog control program has taught us that these free-roaming dogs are not owned by anyone but the minute we try to remove them off the streets, we get criticized for our lack of compassion," he said.

This seemingly never-ending problem with stray dogs has prompted Apatang to support the intent of House Local Bill 22-19, which would make dog owners responsible for the disposal of their pets' fecal waste. House Local Bill 22-19 is authored by Rep. Denita Kaipat Yangetmai (D-Saipan).

Under the bill, each person who owns or controls a dog must promptly store and remove any feces left behind by that dog on any public property or right of way or on any private property, and sanitarily dispose of it.

The bill states that the Environmental Protection Agency considers dog waste a pollutant of water bodies and it is most often introduced into receiving waters by way of storm water runoff.

"Dog waste left on the ground increase the exposure of you, your neighbors, and our community to bacteria, viruses and parasites," said Yangetmai in the bill.

In his comment submitted to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation about the bill, Apatang said he supports with the bill's purpose and looks forward to its passage, after the SNILD has given their comments some consideration.

Apatang said their current dog control regulations could use some revisions such as improving definitions of various terms and adding new ones for clarity, improving the registration and license fee structure, improving the fines provision, among a few.

The mayor said the proposed new provision is a command for someone to perform the responsibility of picking up or cleaning the dog's waste, removing it from where it was picked up, and sanitarily disposing of it.

He said from an initial glance at the proposed provision, it appears to make sense and makes people feel that the underlying concern that has been raised that pushed the proposed legislation forward would be taken care of once and for all, "or at least somewhat."

"But we believe the proposed provision is maybe just half of what must be legislated to get pet owners or persons in control of a dog to comply," he said.

Apatang said the proposed provision is overly broad, and the assumption might be that they would promulgate regulations to tighten the intent of the bill. "But that is only an assumption," he said.

To fully make sense of the proposed provision, Apatang said, they believe it needs to define the term "sanitarily disposed of it" as that is left open to different interpretation.

He said their other concern fixes on the point of how to enforce the proposed provision when enacted and a person fails to comply with it.

In other words, Apatang said, enforcement implies policing and gathering information or evidence that a person left a place without picking up, removing, and sanitarily disposing of his pet's waste.

Yangetmai

Apatang

Apatang said for purposes of this discussion, they would assume that their office's dog control program would be responsible for seeing that anyone who is in control of a dog complies with the command in the provision.

Given that, he said, they believe it would be a task that their dog control program would find grossly impractical to carry out, as their program has only six staff members with four assigned to physically police the entire island.

Without residents in neighborhoods helping their dog control program record violations or closed circuit televisions in public areas to record real-time activities in public places, they project that less than a handful of pet owners will comply.

"The local bill must add more to make the command meaningful," he said.

Apatang said they believe the local bill should, at a minimum, authorize their office, if the intent were that they would be responsible for making sure pet owners follow the command, to promulgate regulations to impose monetary fines for violation of the command.

He said their current regulations allow them to impound dogs, charge, and collect impoundment, registration and license fees, but not fines for violation of any command similar to that contained in the proposed provision.

Apatang said their recommendation is for the SNILD to modify the bill and insert a provision that would authorize the mayor's office to cite violators and impose monetary fines, plus a provision empowering the mayor's office to collect and expend the fines strictly for implementing the Saipan dog control program.

The mayor recommends passing the local bill as a CNMI-wide legislative bill.

He said in the findings section of the bill, the pronouncement by the Legislature that dog waste is considered a pollutant of water tells them that dog waste is, in fact, a big problem and a serious threat to human health and the environment.

Apatang said because the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has labeled dog waste a pollutant to water bodies, dealing with the issue requires a CNMI-wide effort, rather than restricting it to an agency in the municipal government.

He recommends amending the Commonwealth Litter Control Act of 1989 to add the proposed legislation as a new provision.

The mayor said designating litter control officers that are authorized by the Commonwealth Litter Control Act to cite violators of the Litter Act would probably yield better results, as there are multiple certified litter apprehending officers designated by various government agencies.

Apatang said while their office may play a role in carrying out the intent of the proposed legislation, the agency most appropriate to deal with concerns like pollutants would be the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality.

500 Sails returns to Tinian with 4 canoes, 2 master navigators

Non-profit group 500 Sails sailed four canoes to Tinian from Oct. 21 to 25 25 to participate in the 2021 Gineptin Ha'anen Taga Festival.

With oversight from 500 Sails program coordinator April Repeki, master navigator Mario Benito, and master navigator Antonio Piailug, this sail was also made possible by 16 volunteers who donated their time and energy and/or have been allowed by their offices to take part in this community event.

The 16 volunteers who acted as crew aboard the sailing canoes include the following:

■ *Neni:* [M. Benito, A. Repeki] Lolobeyong Benito and Dennis Jr. Ngirchongor;

■ *Aunty Oba*: [A. Piailug] Stanley Piailug, Beouch Ngirchongor, and Marjorie Atalig Daria;

■ *Richard Seman:* Thompson Onopey, Joshua Onopey, and Andrea Carr;

■ *Anaguan*: Hernit Ikea, Timothy Onopey, and Mason Nukuto;

■ Escort boat *Weniol:* Captain Larry Sharry and Jay G. Erlet alongside 500 Sails volunteers Joseph Torres, Nathy Ikea, and Rose Benito.

500 Sails thanked the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., CNMI State Medicaid Agency, Saipan Ice & Water, and Karidat – Guma Esperansa for allowing their staff to participate in this activity. "Your support allows us to keep our cultural traditions alive by providing a pool of qualified sailors who are teaching others to develop their maritime skillsets," said the foundation in a news release.

Non-profit group 500 Sails sailed four canoes to Tinian from Oct. 21 to 25 25 to participate in the 2021 Gineptin Ha'anen Taga Festival. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The support from the Tinian community includes:

■ Tinian Mayor Edwin P. Aldan and staff from the Office of the Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan for their donation of 10 cases of water bottles to the crew during their four-day camp at Tachogna Beach.

■ Councilwoman Juanita Mendiola and the 18th Tinian Municipal Council for their donation of 30 food vouchers that the crew used during their time at the grounds.

■ Mr. & Mrs. Juan M. Atalig and family for time spent with the crew and the thrice home-cooked meals provided to crew upon arrival on Tinian and departure from Tinian, and lunch mid-camp.

■ Keith K. Nabors and family for sharing the secrets of sling with the crew in the CNMI's first-ever sling competition.

■ Ray Pangelinan from Kana's Rental for stopping by in the middle of the night during the storm to assist the crew in securing the campsite.

■ Tinian Jr. Sr. High School vice principal Nikita Mendiola and TJSHS staff and students for their assistance in the setup of 500 Sails' school presentation, as well as "their patience as we figured out technical difficulties, their curious and inquisitive minds during our Q&A, as well as their determination to sail with us on our canoes during our stay."

■ Tinian visitors and residents who came out to the water to sail on the canoes, break bread with the master navigators and crew, and overall, share in the sacred journey.

■ Thomas Manglona from KUAM News for documenting the trip to Tinian.

■ Northern Marianas Humanities Council's Andrew Roberto and photography/film crew: Tahj Salas and Ben Salas for highlighting the works of 500 Sails staff during our journey.

The crossing from the Guma Sakman on Saipan to Tachogna Beach on Tinian covered less than eight hours in clear conditions. The return sail to Saipan covered rough seas that reduced the sail time from an average of 10 hours to less than five hours.

This visit to Tinian was 500 Sails' fourth visit to its sister island with the mission to revive its maritime culture and history. Tinian played a crucial role in our ability to build authentic Chamorro canoes because it was exactly off Tachogna Beach in 1742 that the design of the Chamorro canoe was captured by the English ship *Centurion* and was preserved across centuries. In fact, two of the *Centurion*'s anchors are still in the water off Tachogna Beach.

500 Sails is grateful to the Tinian & Saipan community, IAO, CCVI/Canoe Federation, and IT&E for their support in helping the nonprofit be where it is now.

For more information on programs, call 670-323-7245(SAIL), email info@500sails.org, follow 500 Sails at https://www.facebook.com/500SailsDolphinClubSaipan, or call 500 Sails executive director Peter Perez at 670-783-0890. ***(PR)***

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
MVA-RFP-22-2046

For: Marianas Visitors Authority
TOURISM RESUMPTION INVESTMENT PLAN (TRIP)
HYBRID QUARANTINE FACILITY

Submission /Closing Date: November 15, 2021 Time: 10:00AM (ChST)
Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority
Attn: Procurement Office
San Jose Professional Building
Beach Rd., San Jose
P.O. Box 500861, Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the Scope of Work on or after **November 01, 2021** at the **Marianas Visitors Authority Office, San Jose Professional Building, Beach Road, San Jose, Saipan**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

/s/ Ellsbeth Viola Alepuyo
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

/s/ Priscilla M. Iakopo
Managing Director, MVA

David E. Vinyard
and Milelani Ilo Vinyard
P.O. Box 503887 Saipan, MP 96950
(671) 707-5390/ (670) 783-0617
PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL GUARDIANSHIP FOR: R.H.C.I. A.I.H.C. Minor Children
BY: David E. Vinyard & Milelani Ilo Vinyard

FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-0278

NOTICE OF HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on November 29th, 2021 at 09:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.

Dated this 15th day of July, 2021.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Joe I. Quitugua Petitioner -vs- Haiyan Huang Respondent

FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 21-0382

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505122, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgment by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated this 22nd day of October, 2021.

/s/ Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM | WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CURRENCY EXCHANGE SERVICES
FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Project No.: CPA-RFP-001-21
CPA Concession No.: SCX-2021-01

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (the "CPA") is accepting sealed proposals, subject to the terms and conditions of the Request for Proposals (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for proposals from firms, companies, and/or corporations for currency exchange services at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. This concession is for the exclusive right to offer currency exchange, travel insurance, and other related services as applicable, including, but not limited to, the sale and purchase of foreign currency banknotes, drafts, money transfer, travelers check, and any other travel related products that are not related products precluded by other concessionaire agreements in the Airport.

The RFP will be issued and available for pick-up beginning **October 07, 2021**, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, at the Administration Office, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. CPA offices are closed on holidays. The RFP includes layouts and requirements. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and/or all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Prospective proposers will be required to pay a non-refundable administrative fee of $50.00 for costs associated with handling and consideration of the proposal. Payments are accepted in the form of cash, credit card, and certified cashier's checks made out to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Questions and/or clarification concerning this project shall be in writing and sent to the attention of the Executive Director through email at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com with copy to Joy Ann Tenorio at joy.tenorio@cnmiports.com no later than **October 25, 2021.**

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"RFP TECHNICAL SUBMISSION: CONFIDENTIAL; CONCESSION NO. SXC-2021-01."** One (1) original and three (3) copies of the technical proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. Chamorro Standard Time, November 18, 2021**, to the Authority Administration Section, Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, Saipan International Airport. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee. Proposers that submit proposals deemed to be Sufficiently Acceptable pursuant to the terms of this RFP will be invited to submit Price Bids and will be notified of the time, date, and location for submittal of such Price Bids.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so, would be in CPA's best interest. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

10/04/21
Date

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement and Property Management
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 I www.marianas.edu

SUPPLY and DELIVERY OF VEHICLE
INVITATION FOR BIDS
NMC IFB 22-0001

Northern Marianas College (The College) is soliciting competitive sealed Bids for the Supply and Delivery of One (1) 4X4 Crew Cab, Long bed Pickup Truck.

Specifications and Scope of Work packets may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing October 12, 2021 between the hours of 9:00-11:30 a.m.** for the Electronic packet, please send request to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

Sealed Bids Submission:
Procurement & Property Management Office, Bldg. P, As Terlaje Campus
Due Date and Time: 10:00am, November 12, 2021 (CNMI).

Paid for by 100% federal funds through the USDA-Rural Development Community Facilities- Disaster Grant, Case Number 62-005-91982292

In accordance with Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

Approved by:

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Manager

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXI, Issue No. 222

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Schooled: Learning from Democrats' electoral losses last week

Voters in what not long ago was considered a reliably Democratic state, Virginia, elected a Republican governor Tuesday night last week, and what seems to have made the difference was an issue that typically keeps people in the blue column: education.

Polls show Glenn Youngkin rode to victory powered in part by suburban public-school-parent grievances about the teaching of "critical race theory" in schools.

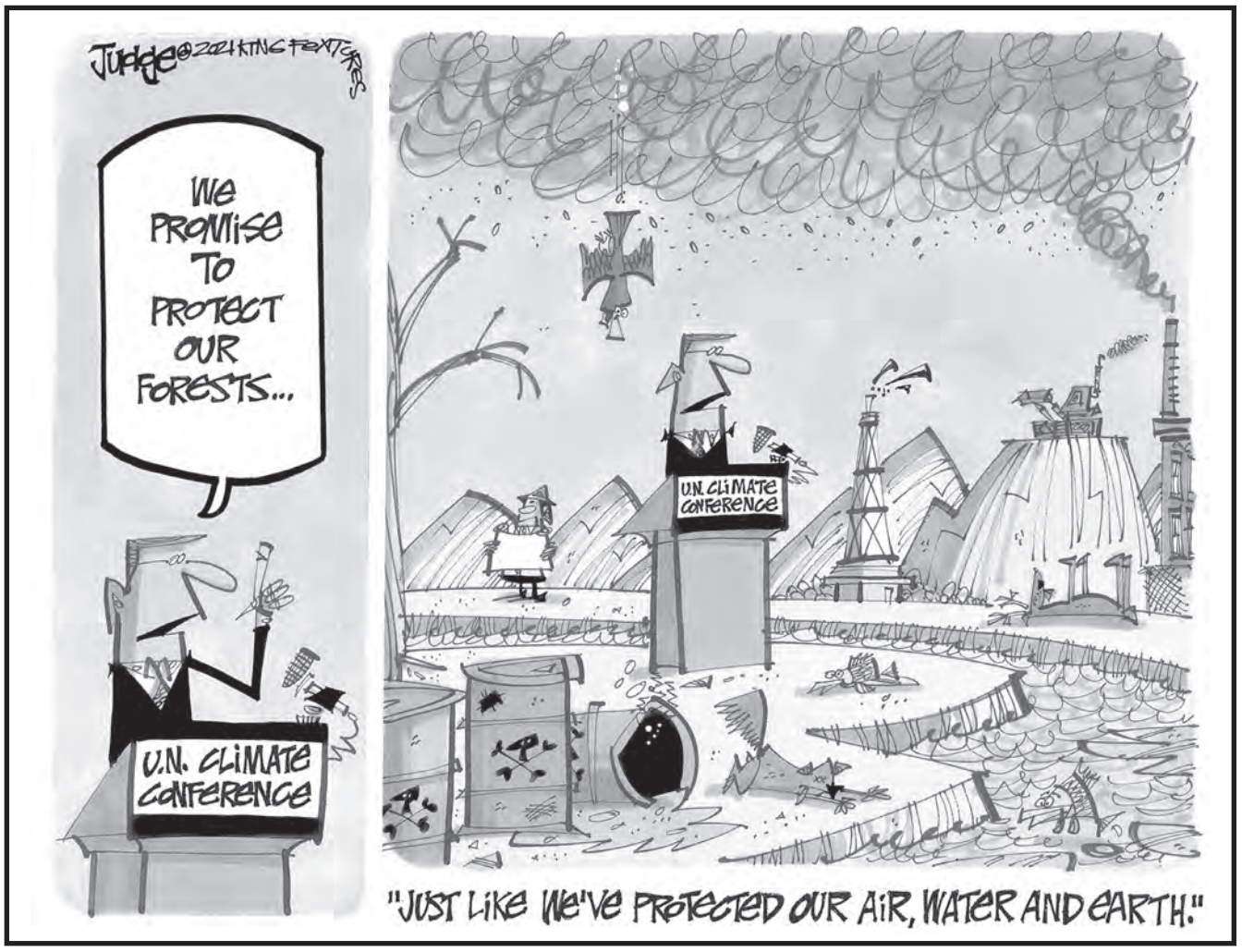
As this new culture-war wedge proves electorally potent, Democrats have two choices: continuing to complain about how the other party is distorting what is actually happening in classrooms, or making an honest effort to listen to the grievances. We recommend the latter.

It's not that what gets called "critical race theory"—a bad-fit label often applied in bad faith to instruction aimed at communicating the very serious legacy of racial prejudice in America—is flat wrong. To the contrary: It is a fact that the United States remains infected by many forms of structural racism, and it is important for young people, especially at the appropriate age, to learn how the nation falls short of its founding promises. Laws seeking to outright ban CRT and its cousins are vile and infringe on core freedoms.

The problem is that there are real instances in which such an ideology manifestly goes too far, such as when advocates claim that academic achievement or persuasive writing are constructs of white supremacy, or when second-graders are conditioned to view themselves foremost through the prism of their skin color. This may not happen in most schools—media outrage machines often distort the truth to pretend as though the bogeyman is far bigger than it is—but it happens enough. Plenty of parents, not just far-right ideologues, recoil.

Science classes must always teach about evolution, and history classes about slavery and Jim Crow. But when schools delve into especially fraught subjects, especially with very young students, in a manner that veers on overt political indoctrination, they breach trust. If they don't show a healthier respect for mothers and fathers who feel their vital role is being usurped, parents will continue in ever larger numbers to choose charters, private schools or homeschooling. That will further fragment America.

©2021 New York Daily News


JUDGE ©2021 KING FEATURES
WE PROMISE TO PROTECT OUR FORESTS...
U.N. CLIMATE CONFERENCE
U.N. CLIMATE CONFERENCE
"JUST LIKE WE'VE PROTECTED OUR AIR, WATER AND EARTH."

Democrats flunked message politics—again

By MARTIN SCHRAM
Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.

In the first months of Joe Biden's presidency, the Democrats seemed to be figuring they were set up to shift their campaign bandwagons into cruise control and keep on rollin' for years (probably decades!) of American political dominance.

All they had to do was stick to the message that won them the presidency significantly, and control of the House and Senate narrowly. After electing Scranton Joe, a common man with master's degrees in humility and experience, people began to think government might finally begin working for us, after all. And Team Biden was getting help that no one could have predicted. Their opposition, the no-longer-Grand Old Party had begun committing unsolicited self-sabotage. Republican leaders began mindlessly echoing their defeated leader's pathological lies and pretending not to notice his willingness to destroy America's constitutional democracy to regain his presidential power.

But no. The Democrats mucked up their message politics and their timing, yet again. Liberals, who now (in a concession to imagery) call themselves progressives, began making it clear that they weren't going to settle for mere progress, after all. Encouraged by Dreamland Joe, they were demanding it all at once—not just the biggest hard-construction infrastructure bill since Eisenhower but also the biggest government social safety net catchall since FDR.

Bizarrely, Democrats have spent the year making sure Americans heard one message most of all. It was the number $3.5 trillion—and it scared the bejabbers out of most voters. Progressives demanded not just a vote on the trillion-dollar hard-infrastructure bill but also a $3.5 trillion social safety net. People who knew nothing about what the bill's provisions would do for their families knew that huge and frightening number.

It was a message politics disaster. In the 1980s, I covered how television news was subtly but skillfully used and even manipulated by Ronald Reagan's White House team and wrote a 1987 book about it ("The Great American Video Game: Presidential Politics in the Television Age"). I covered how Americans perceived what came gushing out of the Great News Funnels and into their homes. As people watching news, campaign ads and TV comedy monologues, it all came together as images remembered in their mind's eye.

People weren't sure if they saw a specific thing on the news, an ad, or in a comedy clip—but they assumed it was news. Today we must add in all that spins by as we surf our news screens: CNN, "SNL," Facebook, Twitter—images and impressions become our news reality.

This year, Americans saw Democratic moderates and progressives in their congressional sandboxes, playing small-think, self-gratifying games of Capitol-chicken. They ended up making their president and themselves look inept—when they truly needed to look ept. Just this once.

People remembered the snippets: $3.5 trillion; tragic mess at the Afghan airport; $3.5 trillion; gas prices soaring; family cars running on empty; Congress too. And this ubiquitous headline: "Democrats in Disarray."

What voters don't remember seeing in a long time was the once hopeful presidency of Scranton Joe. And on election night we all saw the predictable result of what that message politics failure inevitably produces. A sense of Biden flailing and Democrats in disarray seemed everywhere. Blue Virginia went Republican Red, electing a GOP governor due to major gains in blue suburbs—and also in rural red areas. Similar voting patterns occurred in New Jersey (where Republicans almost toppled a Democratic governor) and New York's Long Island suburbs.

This summer, progressive House Democrats could have helped make history by voting for the greatly needed infrastructure bill as a stand-alone measure so it could become law (after a bipartisan Senate vote approved it). That would have changed the reality voters remembered in their mind's eyes on Election Day. And then the Democrats could move on to their grander goal of trying to reweave America's social safety net.

Three days and one election night defeat later, now-panicked House progressives did just that, anyway. They showed America, belatedly, that they can make government work, after all. And they did one thing more. They gave America's voters the gift they had chosen for themselves a year earlier: They returned Scranton Joe to the presidency.

On Saturday morning, a grateful president returned to the roots of his message politics. And Scranton Joe greeted his people:

"For all of you at home who feel left behind and forgotten in an economy that's changing so rapidly, this bill is for you. The vast majority of the thousands of jobs that will be created don't require a college degree. They'll be jobs in every part of the country. … This is a blue-collar blueprint to rebuild America. And it's long overdue."

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Top Pentagon general: 'We are witnessing one of the largest shifts in geopolitical power that the world has seen'

By TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the The Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.

WASHINGTON—The world is changing faster than our sluggish political leaders—let alone the public—can manage.

The COVID-19 virus and climate change move far more quickly than the international community, as we saw last week at the G-20 in Rome and the COP26 climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland. Back home, rapid social shifts push many Americans to embrace fraudsters who promise to save them. The urgent need to upgrade our fraying democracy is blocked by GOP naysayers and Democratic Party infighting.

Above it all, science is advancing at warp speed while we humans progress at sludge speed, too oblivious to recognize that the changes from which we now recoil will be dwarfed by those of the next five or 10 years.

That reality was highlighted by the Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, Gen. Mark Milley, at the Aspen Security Forum on Wednesday in Washington.

The general spoke of the uniqueness of the Chinese challenge, fueled by Beijing's drive to surpass the United States in cyber capabilities and space. His real message was the need to recognize the urgency of this moment.

"We are witnessing one of the largest shifts in geopolitical power that the world has witnessed," the general said. He was referring to China, of course, which in the last four decades has surged from a peasant economy and peasant army to the second-largest global economy with sophisticated capabilities in space and cybersecurity—on land, sea, air and underwater.

The general stressed, however, that these changes happened within "a fundamental change in the character of war" spurred by vast technological changes. "The last big [shift, between World War I and World War II] was the introduction of the airplane, mechanization, and the radio. Today, you're seeing robotics, artificial intelligence … and a wide variety of other technologies.

"If we, the United States military, don't do a fundamental change ourselves in the coming 10 to 20 years, we're going to be on the wrong side of a conflict."

What the general was speaking about involves more than imprecise talk of a new Cold War between two unequal superpowers. The Soviet Union was a self-isolating country with lousy geography and a failing economy, whose power rested on a large arsenal of nuclear weapons and its energy supplies.

The new "tripolar war," as the general labeled it, involves competition between the United States and a Chinese economic giant in hot pursuit of technological supremacy with America, trailed by a Russian economic midget still defined by oil, gas and nukes.

Again, rapid advances in science are the key to defining the new era we live in. "Adding in all the technologies that are coming at us very quickly," the general said, "we're entering into a world that is potentially much more strategically unstable than the last 40 to 70 years."

Space and cyber capabilities are the big new worry. As Milley pointed out, our economy, country and military are entirely dependent on space and the satellites that provide local and global connectivity.

We are growing familiar with the mayhem cyber hackers—both governmental and criminal, or working in tandem—can wreak on our systems, from banks to energy supplies to hospitals.

And we think we know about space wars, because we have been watching them for years in the movies. But a real space war, that knocked out military and commercial satellites (which run our daily life), would be nothing like competing with Darth Vader.

"Space today is a new domain of more conflict," the general said. "We don't want to have conflict in space. I would say that we are the No. 1 country on Earth that has capabilities in space, but other countries are close behind. Space is becoming a very contested domain for the United States to operate in, and a lot of work remains to be done."

Yet the progress in doing that "work that needs to be done"—in the political, military, health and environmental spheres—doesn't remotely compute with the rapidity that is demanded.

As other speakers at the forum pointed out, the United States has the resources to catch up. Private companies are now working more closely with the Pentagon on combating cyber threats, and American scientific talent is still the best in the world (if we don't block the immigrant talent that has been so crucial to our breakthroughs).

Private-public partnerships are putting more satellites into space. The speedy emergence of safe COVID-19 vaccines proves that U.S. and international scientists can rise to new threats if they are funded and supported.

Yet, our political system seems incapable of upping its game. GOP leaders deny science and decry immigration while focusing on the "big lie"—even though Tuesday's elections show that it isn't fatal for the GOP to distance itself from Donald Trump.

President Joe Biden and his team grasp the need for speed but are thwarted in its application.

The challenges Milley outlined—from China and technological change—won't wait for legislators to pass the bills that would address them. As the general noted, the last Cold War with nukes involved a simple yes or no. A tired Soviet Union was not prepared to use them.

"That is a different world from cyberspace," the general pointed out. The new world, and China, won't wait around for us to speed up our response.

We've studied male-on-male sexual assault. Here are some strategies to protect a young man

By LAURA NIELSEN
Chicago Tribune

Laura Nielsen is a professor of sociology at Northwestern University and a research professor at the American Bar Foundation. She is also director of the Center for Legal Studies at Northwestern University.

How does an adult man who is 6-foot-3, 203 pounds, a first-round NHL draft pick and Stanley Cup winner become a victim of alleged sexual assault by another man?

But Kyle Beach's story shows that physical power does not always prevent sexual assault. The bro-culture we see so often in sports, fraternities and other male-dominated spaces can hide and sometimes even encourage sexual assault. We've studied this kind of assault—and know how to help our boys and young men see the signs before they (or their friends) become victims.

First, know that men are sexually assaulted—and with very real consequences. Your young man (and maybe even you) may scoff at the idea that he could become a victim of sexual assault. But Beach's story isn't unusual. Fully 16% of men say they were assaulted by the time they reached the age of 18. Around 5% to 6% of men will experience sexual assault during college. And these are just the ones willing to acknowledge it.

It's a myth that all men can fight off all other men. Men can be manipulated or threatened into dangerous situations that don't involve physical struggle but are nonetheless rape. Here's what happens to these victims:

■ People who've been sexually assaulted are more likely to attempt suicide.

■ Nearly one-third (31%) of all rape victims develop PTSD.

■ Thirty percent of rape victims endure at least one major depressive episode in their lifetime. For 21%, that comes at the time of the rape.

■ Targets of sexual violence who are in school typically see a significant drop in their GPA. After a sexual assault, they typically attend class less frequently and have difficulty concentrating on and completing school work.

■ Sexual assault victims are more likely to drop out of school than other students

Your son may insist it won't happen to him. So encourage him to think about his best friend, teammate or fellow altar boy. He can help minimize such harsh life consequences for them by being aware of the signs.

Your early teenage or college-bound young man has had some form of sex education in school, community groups, religious school—or maybe on their phones when you aren't looking. Start from there and ask what he knows about the importance of sexual consent. Ask what he remembers from these courses. It won't be much, we promise; the information is generally pretty forgettable. Still, just asking about it will help reinforce its importance. Try to have this conversation in a way that lets him imagine himself (not a young woman he is with) being the one giving or refusing consent.

Second, know how sexual assault happens—and help your young man watch for signs.

Most sexual assaults begin in full view—so encourage him to assess if he is OK and intervene to see if others are OK. In some hierarchical groups in particular (such as fraternities and athletic cohorts), there's sometimes an older student, coach, scoutmaster or priest who takes advantage of those weaker or lower in the chain, offering extra attention, taking them under his wing, "playfully" grabbing private parts a little too often. Suggest that your young man take seriously any behavior that just doesn't feel quite right, whether it's happening to him or someone else. Speaking up early and refusing to play along when his "spidey-sense" is tingling can make a big difference.

Tell your son to respect his own intuition. It's easy to laugh off teasing, but ignoring sexual bullying tells perpetrators they have free rein. The more sexual bullying is downplayed the less likely it is for those in authority to recognize when it has gone too far.

Finally, help your son develop strategies for speaking up.

It's easy for young people to override an uneasy sense that something's a little off. If the coach, older player or frat brother is paying too much attention in a way that doesn't seem quite right, tell them to talk to someone. If the person in charge doesn't do anything, then he should talk to someone else, maybe you. Develop a group strategy for throwing an abuser off. Encourage your son to speak up early in a way that makes clear he—or his friend—won't stay quiet if something bad happens.

That can be hard in a culture where a young man has been trained to respect the hierarchy and do what he's told, or that the team needs him to "go along" so that they can win. Before he speaks up, he can arrange allies in advance, and then quietly and powerfully make it clear that none of the men are looking away. Maybe your son says, "Hey coach, do you like John more than the rest of us?" Maybe he makes sure none of them go into a male authority figure's office without a buddy waiting outside. Together they can make it clear that messing with their crew won't be worth the trouble.

Do most sports leagues, colleges and universities have this under control? No. Just ask the Blackhawks, who just paid a $2 million fine.

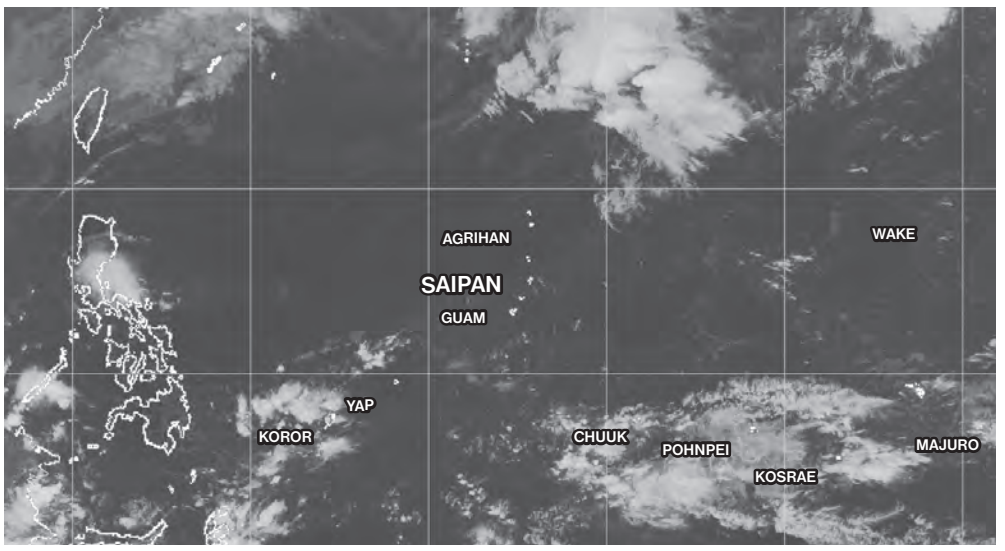
To be sure, rapists are the primary cause of sexual violence. But let's give our young men a better chance at avoiding pain and shame by helping them be alert.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy during the early morning, becoming partly cloudy by afternoon. Isolated showers. east winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°	87° 77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:11 AM, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Radar and satellite trends show showers starting to slowly decrease in coverage and intensity, under partly cloudy skies. This is of no surprise now that the suns up. The latest observations from the Ipan buoy shows seas a little above 3 feet, with a water temperature of 86 degrees.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Wednesday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:16 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM
Saturday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:38 AM	10:04 PM	-
Wednesday	11:37 AM	11:07 PM	-
Thursday	12:30 PM	-	-
Friday	-	12:07 AM	1:17 PM
Saturday	-	1:03 AM	1:58 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Cloudy 63° / 55°
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy 54° / 39°
Hong Kong	Sunny 81° / 73°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy 83° / 73°
London	Partly Cloudy 48° / 39°
Los Angeles	Sunny 73° / 55°
Manila	Showers 88° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy 72° / 46°
Miami	Partly Cloudy 81° / 74°
New York	Partly Cloudy 54° / 45°
Osaka	Sunny 63° / 45°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy 48° / 39°
Busan	Sunny 66° / 54°
Rome	Mostly Sunny 63° / 48°
Salem	Thunderstorm 72° / 60°
San Francisco	Rain 62° / 53°
Seoul	Sunny 61° / 43°
Tokyo	Windy 64° / 48°
Washington, DC	Cloudy 52° / 41°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
4:42 AM	Low Tide	-0.62
12:13 PM	High Tide	1.83
5:35 PM	Low Tide	1.26
9:51 PM	High Tide	1.70

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769.
E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 28, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:20am	8:05am	2, 4, 6
UA117	9:50am	10:35am	1, 3, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	8:00pm	9:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:20am	9:50pm	2, 4, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
TW9308	3:20PM	8:00PM	4
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA116	5:30am	6:16am	2, 4, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:46am	1, 3, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:40pm	4:30am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:55pm	4:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	10:40pm	6:16am+1	5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:40pm	8:46am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	6:16am+1	1, 3 via Guam
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:46am+1	4, 6, 7 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	4

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Business

Ksau's Motors now official Toyota retailer for Palau

» Atkins Kroll, Surangel and Sons Co. sign Toyota dealership agreement

TAMUNING, Guam—Atkins Kroll Inc., the Toyota distributor for Guam and Micronesia, recently signed a Toyota dealership agreement with Surangel and Sons Co. in the Republic of Palau, making Ksau's Motors, a division of Surangel and Sons Co., Toyota's official retailer for Palau.

Ksau's Motors is on track for a soft opening of its Toyota dealership in February 2022 at its new supercenter in Airai, Palau. The ultra-reliable Toyota Hilux trucks will be the first models to debut in the market.

"Atkins Kroll is extremely fortunate to establish this partnership with Surangel and Sons Co.," said Atkins Kroll Inc. managing director Alex Hammett. "They take a lot of pride in the products and services they offer and always aim to give customers the best value. It was an easy decision for us, and we look forward to growing our relationship as we expand the Toyota brand in the region."

Surangel and Sons Co. is a family private corporation in the Republic of Palau. Surangel Whipps Sr. founded the company in 1980 and since then it has always focused on providing high-quality products at fair and affordable prices. Surangel and Sons Co. has a comprehensive business portfolio offering hardware, home design, automotive sales and repair, equipment rentals, groceries, and scuba gear. The company's new supercenter will have a soft opening in February 2022 with a grand opening in the spring.

This artist sketch shows the Surangel and Sons Co. Toyota dealership in Airai, Palau. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"We want to provide quality vehicles with affordable pricing and terms for the people of Palau," said Surangel and Sons Co. chief executive officer Eric Ksau Whipps. "Ksau's Motors will retail the Toyota Hilux trucks initially, and other models will follow. Hilux offers a lot of value, flexibility, and reliability, which Palau residents desire most. We want to provide quality vehicles and service, and we can make this happen with the Toyota brand and our new partnership with Atkins Kroll."

Surangel and Sons Co. began vehicle sales in the '80s at their family residence in Sireib. They are now just months away from opening the first Toyota dealership in the Republic of Palau, Ksau's Motors. The new Toyota dealership will feature an 1,881 square foot showroom accommodating up to four new vehicles on the floor and one delivery suite. The future aftersales area will host 10 service bays, two paint spray booths, and a parts retail section. ***(PR)***

Ksau's Motors is on track for a soft opening of its Toyota dealership in Airai, Palau in February 2022. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Proof of vax required as strict mandate takes effect in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Los Angeles is among a growing number of cities across the U.S., including San Francisco and New York City, requiring people show proof of vaccination to enter various types of businesses and venues. But rules in the nation's second-most-populous city, called SafePassLA, apply to more types of businesses and other indoor locations including museums and convention centers. They are being implemented as new cases have started inching up following a sharp decline from an August peak driven by the delta variant. This was the time of year in 2020 when the worst spike of the pandemic was just beginning in California, which by January saw an average of 500 people die every day. Los Angeles became the state's epicenter and its hospitals were so overloaded with patients that ambulances idled outside with people struggling to breathe, waiting for beds to open.

Appeals court stays vaccine mandate on larger businesses

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A federal appeals court on Saturday temporarily halted the Biden administration's vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers. The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals granted an emergency stay of the requirement by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration that those workers be vaccinated by Jan. 4 or face mask requirements and weekly tests. Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry said the action stops President Joe Biden "from moving forward with his unlawful overreach." "The president will not impose medical procedures on the American people without the checks and balances afforded by the constitution," said a statement from Landry, a Republican. The U.S. Labor Department's top legal adviser, Solicitor of Labor Seema Nanda, said the department is "confident in its legal authority to issue the emergency temporary standard on vaccination and testing."

China's exports stay strong, trade surplus tops $80 billion

BEIJING (AP)—China's exports remained strong in October, a positive sign for an economy trying to weather power shortages and COVID-19 outbreaks.

The country's customs agency said Sunday that exports totaled $300.2 billion, up 27.1% from a year ago. That was down from a 28.1% increase in September but still healthy. Imports came in at $215.7 billion, a 20.6% rise.

Exports and imports are much higher than a year ago, when much of the world was in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is widespread concern that economic headwinds are slowing growth. The world's second-largest economy grew 4.9% in the three months ending in September, down from 7.9% in the previous quarter.

China's trade surplus in October was $84.5 billion, up from $66.8 billion the previous month, the customs agency said. The surplus with the U.S. was down slightly to $40.7 billion, compared to $42 billion in September. With the EU, it was $25.9 billion.

China and the U.S. are mired in a trade war that dates from the administration of former President Donald Trump. The U.S. imposed tariffs on Chinese products, and China retaliated with tariffs on American ones. U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai said last month that she planned frank talks with her Chinese counterparts over their differences.

China's economy has been buffeted by the government's tough COVID-19-related restrictions, which have depressed domestic travel and consumer demand, and power shortages that have pushed down factory production. Regulators are also cracking down on debt-laden real estate developers, slowing the housing market.

Nation

Biden vaccine mandates face first test with federal workers

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Joe Biden is pushing forward with a massive plan to require millions of private sector employees to get vaccinated by early next year. But first, he has to make sure workers in his own federal government get the shot.

About 4 million federal workers are to be vaccinated by Nov. 22 under the president's executive order. Some employees, like those at the White House, are nearly all vaccinated. But the rates are lower at other federal agencies, particularly those related to law enforcement and intelligence, according to the agencies and union leaders. And some resistant workers are digging in, filing lawsuits and protesting what they say is unfair overreach by the White House.

The upcoming deadline is the first test of Biden's push to compel people to get vaccinated. Beyond the federal worker rule, another mandate will take effect in January aimed at around 84 million private sector workers, according to guidelines put out this past week.

On Saturday, a federal appeals court in Louisiana temporarily halted the vaccine requirement for businesses with 100 or more workers. The administration says it is confident that the requirement will withstand legal challenges in part because its safety rules preempt state laws.

"The president and the administration wouldn't have put these requirements in place if they didn't think that they were appropriate and necessary," Surgeon General Vivek Murthy said Sunday on ABC's "This Week." "And the administration is certainly prepared to defend them."

If the mandates are a success, they could make the most serious dent in new coronavirus cases since the vaccine first became available, especially with the news this past week that children ages 5-11 can get the shot making an additional 64 million people eligible. But with two weeks remaining until the federal worker deadline, some leaders of unions representing the employees say that convincing the unvaccinated to change their mind is increasingly challenging.

"I got the vaccine in February, it was my own choice and I thought it would stop the virus," said Corey Trammel, a Bureau of Prisons correctional officer and local union president in Louisiana. "But it hasn't. And now I have people resigning because they are tired of the government overreach on this, they do not want to get the shot. People just don't trust the government, and they just don't trust this vaccine."

Vaccines have a proven track record of safety, backed by clinical trials and independent reviews showing them overwhelmingly effective at preventing serious illness and death from COVID-19. More than 222 million Americans have received at least one vaccine dose and more than 193 million are fully vaccinated. More than half of the world population has also received a shot.

Scientists have been battling anxiety over the vaccine since it was first authorized; an AP-NORC poll earlier this year found one-third of adults in the U.S. were skeptical, despite assurances the vaccine was safe and effective and few instances of serious side effects. About 70% of American adults are fully vaccinated and 80% have received at least one dose of a vaccine.

Vaccinations have unfolded at uneven rates across the federal government.

Mourning starts as Houston officials probe concert deaths

HOUSTON (AP)—Investigators Sunday worked to determine how eight people died in a crush of fans at a Houston music festival, as families mourned the dead and concertgoers recounted the horror and confusion of being trapped in the crowd.

Stacey Sarmiento places flowers at a memorial in Houston on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021 in memory of her friend, Rudy Pena, who died in a crush of people at the Astroworld music festival on Friday. AP

Authorities planned to use videos, witness interviews and a review of concert procedures to figure out what went wrong Friday night during a performance by rapper Travis Scott. The tragedy unfolded when the crowd rushed the stage, squeezing people so tightly they couldn't breathe.

Billy Nasser, 24, who had traveled from Indianapolis to attend the concert, said about 15 minutes into Scott's set, things got "really crazy" and people began crushing one another. He said he "was picking people up and trying to drag them out."

Nasser said he found a concertgoer on the ground.

"I picked him up. People were stepping on him. People were like stomping, and I picked his head up and I looked at his eyes, and his eyes were just white, rolled back to the back of his head," he said.

Over the weekend, a makeshift memorial of flowers, votive candles, condolence notes and T-shirts took shape outside at NRG Park.

Michael Suarez, 26, visited the growing memorial after the concert.

"It's very devastating. No one wants to see or hear people dying at a festival," Suarez said. "We were here to have a good time—a great time—and it's devastating to hear someone lost their lives."

The dead, according to friends and family members, included a 14-year-old high school student; a 16-year-old girl who loved dancing; and a 21-year-old engineering student at the University of Dayton. The youngest was 14, the oldest 27.

Houston officials did not immediately release the victims' names or the cause of death, but family and friends began to name their loved ones and tell their stories Sunday.

Thirteen people remained hospitalized Sunday. Their conditions were not disclosed. Over 300 people were treated at a field hospital at the concert.

City officials said they were in the early stages of investigating what caused the pandemonium at the sold-out Astroworld festival, an event founded by Scott. About 50,000 people were there.

Authorities said that among other things, they will look at how the area around the stage was designed.

Julio Patino, of Naperville, Illinois, who was in London on business when he got a middle-of-the-night call informing him his 21-year-old son Franco was dead, said he had a lot of questions about what happened.

"These concerts should be controlled," Patino said. "If they don't know how to do that, they should have canceled the concert right then, when they noticed there was an overcrowd." He added: "They should not wait until they see people laying down on the floor, lifeless."

'Nimblewill Nomad,' 83, is oldest to hike Appalachian Trail

PORTLAND, Maine (AP)—An 83-year-old from Alabama started walking when he retired more than a quarter-century ago—and never stopped.

M.J. "Sunny" Eberhart strode into the record books Sunday as the oldest hiker to complete the Appalachian Trail.

Eberhart, known by the trail name Nimblewill Nomad, acknowledged that despite having tens of thousands of miles under his belt, the trail was tough going at his age, leading to quite a few spills on slippery rocks.

"I've a got a couple of skid marks on me, but I'm OK," he said in a recent interview. "You've got to have an incredible resolve to do this."

He hiked the trail out of order, in sections, to take advantage of optimal weather, and had already completed northern sections including Maine's Mount Katahdin. He completed his final section in western Massachusetts, in the town of Dalton, in the same year in which a 5-year-old became among the youngest to complete the feat.

Joining Eberhart for the finish was the former record holder, Dale "Greybeard" Sanders, who lives outside Memphis, Tennessee. He completed the hike at age 82 in 2017. He's not sad to see the record fall.

"My dear friend Nimblewill is taking my record away from me, and I'm happy for him. Records are made to be broken," Sanders said.

M.J. Eberhart, 83, arrives on the summit of Mount Hayes on the Appalachian Trail, Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021, in Gorham, New Hampshire. AP

ACROSS THE NATION

Students barred from games after chants at female goalie

KITTANNING, Pa. (AP)—A female high school ice hockey goalie in Pennsylvania is returning to the ice Monday for her first school game since she was the target of vulgar chants from spectators that resulted in discipline by a school and a youth sports organization. Armstrong High School students chanted vulgarities at the Mars Area High School team's female goalie during an Oct. 28 game between the Armstrong River Hawks and Mars Fightin' Planets at the Armstrong team's Belmont Ice Arena near Kittanning, in western Pennsylvania. The chants from among a group of 50 to 60 students were captured on video posted to social media. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Hockey League on Thursday barred Armstrong students from River Hawks hockey games and placed the school's team on probation for the remainder of the 2021-22 season, including the playoffs. Siblings of varsity players can attend only if they enter and sit with a parent or guardian, and the school must provide a faculty member or administrator at each home and away varsity game to serve as a monitor.

High wind delays SpaceX crew homecoming after 6 months aloft

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—High wind off the Florida coast has prompted SpaceX to delay the return of four space station astronauts in orbit since spring. The U.S., French and Japanese astronauts were supposed to leave the International Space Station on Sunday, with their capsule splashing down in the Gulf of Mexico on Monday morning. But with gusts exceeding safety limits, SpaceX bumped the departure to Monday afternoon, with a nighttime return to conclude their six-month mission. The good news is that their trip home will now last eight hours, less than half as long as before. The toilet in their capsule is broken, and so the four will need to rely on diapers while flying home. SpaceX still is aiming for a Wednesday night launch, at the earliest, of their replacements. This flight also has been delayed by bad weather, as well as an astronaut's undisclosed medical issue. The issue, described as minor, should be resolved by launch time, officials said.

Asia

N. Korea stages artillery firing drill in newest weapons test

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea has conducted artillery firing exercises to bolster its defense capability, state media reported Sunday, its latest weapons test as Pyongyang continues to pressure Washington and Seoul to abandon what it calls their hostile policy.

An artillery firing competition among mechanized units was held on Saturday, with senior government and military officials present, the official Korean Central News Agency reported.

Leader Kim Jong Un was not mentioned in the report, suggesting he did not observe the training. He supervised a similar artillery firing drill last year.

This year's drills were designed to inspect the mechanized units' progress in their mobile combat capabilities and to further intensify competitive training throughout the North's military, KCNA said.

Since September, North Korea has test-launched a series of newly developed missiles, including nuclear-capable weapons that place U.S. allies South Korea and Japan within striking distance. Some experts say North Korea wants its rivals to accept it as a nuclear power state and work to ease international sanctions on the country.

The North's artillery tests draw less outside attention than its missile tests, particularly ballistic weapons launches that are banned by multiple U.N. Security Council resolutions. But its long-range artillery pieces deployed near the border with South Korea pose a serious threat to the South's populous metropolitan region and other areas, experts say.

U.S.-led talks aimed at ending North Korea's nuclear program collapsed in early 2019 amid bickering over the sanctions. U.S. officials have recently offered a resumption of talks with North Korea without any preconditions. The North said it won't return to the talks unless the United States first abandons what Pyongyang calls its hostile policy, an apparent reference to the sanctions and regular military drills between Washington and Seoul.

China's first woman to spacewalk works 6 hours outside the station

BEIJING (AP)—Wang Yaping has become the first Chinese woman to conduct a spacewalk as part of a six-month mission to the country's space station.

Wang and fellow astronaut Zhai Zhigang left the station's main module on Sunday evening, spending more than six hours outside installing equipment and carrying out tests alongside the station's robotic service arm, according to the China Manned Space agency.

The third member of the crew, Ye Guangfu, assisted from inside the station, CMS said on its website.

Wang, 41, and Zhai, 55, had both traveled to China's now-retired experimental space stations, and Zhai conducted China's first spacewalk 13 years ago.

The three are the second crew on the permanent station, and the mission that began with their arrival Oct. 16 is scheduled to be the longest stretch of time in space yet for Chinese astronauts.

In this image released by the Xinhua News Agency, a photo taken on a screen shows Chinese astronauts Zhai Zhigang and Wang Yaping conducting extravehicular activities outside the space station's Tianhe core module, from the Beijing Aerospace Control Center on Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021. AP

The Tianhe module of the station will be connected next year to two more sections named Mengtian and Wentian. The completed station will weigh about 66 tons, much smaller than the International Space Station, which launched its first module in 1998 and weighs around 450 tons.

Three spacewalks are planned to install equipment in preparation for the station's expansion, while the crew will also assess living conditions in the Tianhe module and conduct experiments in space medicine and other fields.

China's military-run space program plans to send multiple crews to the station over the next two years to make it fully functional.

Australia police call off search for man attacked by shark

SYDNEY (AP)—Police in western Australia on Sunday called off a search for a swimmer who was attacked by a shark.

The wife of Paul Millachip, 57, said she was with him at the Port Beach in the suburb of Perth on Saturday morning when two teenagers on a boat witnessed the shark attack.

"It came out of the blue. But it did happen, you just have to deal with it," the wife said, asking not to have her name published. She praised the teenagers who tried to help.

When the shark attacked a second time, they raced their boat and alerted other swimmers to get out of the water.

Police said earlier the attack may have involved more than one shark, but witnesses said it appeared to be a 4 1/2-meter (15-foot) great white.

Police said there was an extensive marine search for the father of two, which turned up a pair of goggles believed to belong to him.

"A family is now grieving, a man has lost his life. It's a terribly sad situation," West Australia Premier Mark McGowan said.

The most recent fatal shark attack in Australia was on Sept. 5 in New South Wales state on the eastern coast.

World

Oil tanker blows up in Sierra Leone, kills about 98 people

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone (AP)—An oil tanker truck exploded near Sierra Leone's capital, killing at least 98 people and severely injuring dozens of others after large crowds gathered to collect leaking fuel, officials and witnesses said Saturday.

In this photograph issued Saturday Nov. 6 2021 by Sierra Leone's National Disaster Management Agency, people gather around the charred oil tanker that exploded after being struck by a truck in the Wellington suburb of Sierra Leone's capital Freetown Saturday Nov. 6, 2021. AP

The explosion took place late Friday when the tanker collided with another truck as it was pulling into a gas station near a busy intersection in Wellington, just east of the capital of Freetown, according to the National Disaster Management Agency.

"Both drivers came out of their vehicles and warned community residents to stay off the scene while trying to address a leakage emanating from the collision," the agency said.

In this deeply impoverished country, however, crowds still rushed in to scoop up the fuel, witnesses said. It was not immediately known what caused the leaking fuel to ignite but a massive explosion soon followed.

Video obtained by The Associated Press showed a giant fireball burning in the night sky as some survivors with severe burns cried out in pain. The charred remains of some victims lay strewn at the scene, awaiting transport to mortuaries.

Nearly 100 injured people were taken to area hospitals, officials said. About 30 severely burned people at Connaught Hospital were not expected to survive, according to Foday Musa, a staff member in its intensive care unit.

Injured people whose clothes had burned off in the fire that followed the explosion lay naked on stretchers as nurses attended to them Saturday. Hundreds of people milled outside the main gates of the mortuary and near the hospital's main entrance, waiting for word of their loved ones.

Osman Timbo, said his 13-year-old brother, Mohamed, was among those who had died.

"He left home and said he was going to buy bread for us to eat," Timbo said. "When I heard about the explosion, I went to the scene and I saw my younger brother lying down and he was burned all over. I felt so bad. I loved him so much!"

Hospital officials called in as many doctors and nurses as they could overnight to tend to the wounded. The country's health care sector is still recovering from the 2014-2016 Ebola epidemic, which killed many of the West African nation's doctors and nurses.

President Julius Maada Bio, who was in Scotland attending the U.N. climate talks Saturday, deplored the "horrendous loss of life."

"My profound sympathies with families who have lost loved ones and those who have been maimed as a result," he tweeted.

Vice President Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh visited two hospitals overnight and said Sierra Leone's National Disaster Management Agency and others would "work tirelessly" in the wake of the emergency.

WORLD BRIEFS

North Macedonia police find 42 migrants packed in a truck

SKOPJE, North Macedonia (AP)—Police in North Macedonia say they have discovered 42 migrants in a truck in the southeastern part of the country near the border with Greece. A police patrol car followed the truck Saturday near the town of Star Dojran, 160 kilometers (100 miles) south of the capital of Skopje, intending to flag it down and inspect it. Before they could do so, the driver of the truck and a passenger jumped out while the vehicle was moving. The truck then turned and hit the police patrol car. The police officers were not injured. Police discovered 41 migrants from Syria and one Bangladeshi packed in the truck. None of them were injured. The group was transferred to a migrant shelter in the border town of Gevgelija, pending deportation back to Greece, where police believe they came from.

Police said this was the first large group of migrants discovered in North Macedonia in the past six months.

Tension rises in Iraq after failed bid to assassinate PM

BAGHDAD (AP)—The failed assassination attempt against Iraq's prime minister at his residence on Sunday has ratcheted up tensions following last month's parliamentary elections, in which the Iran-backed militias were the biggest losers. Helicopters circled in the Baghdad skies throughout the day, while troops and patrols deployed around Baghdad and near the capital's fortified Green Zone, where the overnight attack occurred. Supporters of the Iran-backed militias held their ground in a protest camp outside the Green Zone to demand a vote recount. Leaders of the Iran-backed factions converged for the second day on a funeral tent to mourn a protester killed Friday in clashes with security. Many of the faction leaders blame the prime minister for the violence. Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi suffered a light cut and appeared in a televised speech soon after the attack by armed drones on his residence. He appeared calm and composed, seated behind a desk in a white shirt and what appeared to be a bandage around his left wrist.

Overdrive

By LARRY PRINTZ
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Lexus got things just right with 2022 NX 350

The 2022 Lexus NX 350. (LEXUS/TNS)

When Lexus first arrived decades ago, it was very much a split personality. Sure, there was the exquisitely engineered Lexus LS 400, a clear attempt at bettering the finest sedans from Germany. But it was sold alongside the ES 250, which was little more than a Camry with unwarranted airs of superiority. It was as if your plumber crashed a debutante's ball.

It's worth remembering when considering the Lexus NX. It first appeared in 2015 as a classic automotive upsell. Essentially, Toyota draped the RAV4 in Lexus couture. But this sleight of hand worked wonderfully. The Lexus NX is now the brand's second most popular vehicle after the RX, having grown to account for 23 percent of sales. So nearly one in four Lexus vehicles is a compact crossover.

With that kind of popularity, any changes must be made carefully. So even if the redesigned 2022 Lexus NX doesn't initially seem dramatically different, it most certainly is. Just check out the tailgate. There you'll see Lexus spelled out in letters in place of the Lexus L logo. Officials at Lexus seem to consider this a big deal, and I suppose it is if you're a Lexus marketer. But other changes are far more significant, with the most important being found inside.

Until now, Lexus drivers had to contend with a truly dreadful infotainment system controlled by a finicky touchpad and user interface that would be tolerable if you didn't have to drive while using it. Filled with overwrought and cluttered graphics, it was challenging to use at a glance, to say the least.

Thankfully, Lexus has finally rectified the situation by replacing the Japanese-designed system with one designed in America. The results speak for themselves.

The large infotainment screen is the NX's most notable improvement. The test vehicle's optional 14-inches is very large, almost too large. A 9.8-inch screen is standard. But the interface is far easier to use, and the quality of the graphics feels far more suited to its luxury mission. Cloud-based and powered by Google, its refinement is notable. It can now pair two smartphones at once, and wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto are standard. So too are Apple Music and Amazon Music streaming. And it can now be paired with a digital key on your smartphone.

But the dichotomy that's part of Lexus's DNA is present once you look at the instrument cluster. Dim even on the brightest setting., its cluttered design lacks a clear visual hierarchy, with some essential information poorly placed. A distracting animated graphic constantly shows you which part of the driveline is working, which seems unnecessary. The trip odometer is buried, and easily blocked by the steering wheel. The graphics lack the sophistication of the infotainment system and seem as if they're made by a different automaker—and to some extent they are. The instrument cluster was designed in Japan—like the former infotainment system. DOH!

If this seems like a minor concern, it only stands out because the rest of the vehicle is such a clear advance from the first generation NX.

The NX is equipped with four powertrains, starting with the NX 250's normally aspirated 2.5-liter four, which it shares with the Toyota RAV4. It generates 203 horsepower thorough its eight-speed automatic to the front wheels, although all-wheel drive is optional. Performance is best described as adequate, with a 0-60 mph time of 8.6 seconds. Step up to the NX 350 and things immediately get more interesting, as 0-60 mph times drop by two seconds, thanks to the turbocharged 2.5-liter four, with 257 horsepower, the eight-speed and all-wheel drive. If this sounds tempting, you're not alone. Lexus expects it to account for 40 percent of sales.

NUTS & BOLTS

2022 Lexus NX 350

- **Base price**: $41,550
- **Engine**: 2.4-liter turbocharged DOHC four-cylinder
- **Horsepower/Torque**: 275/317 pound-feet
- **EPA fuel economy (city/highway)**: 22/29 mpg
- **Fuel required**: 91 Octane
- **Length/Width/Height**: 183.5/63.4/65.8 inches
- **Ground clearance**: 7.7 inches
- **Payload**: 1,190 pounds
- **Cargo capacity**: 22.7-46.9 cubic feet
- **Towing capacity**: Not rated

The rest of the lineup is made up of hybrids.

The NX 350H is a conventional hybrid with 239 horsepower, but with a 7.2-second 0-60 mph time, it's slower than the NX 350. If you're considering a hybrid NX, and don't mind its lofty price, opt for the NX 450H plug-in hybrid, with a 37-mile pure electric range and a six-second 0-60 mph time.

The turbocharged four, the NX's most popular powerplant, provides enough punch for the cut and thrust of daily driving. While its more than up to the task at hand, the hybrid powerplants prove superior in punch and fuel efficiency, with the top-of-the-line plug-in hybrid proving sprightly off-the-line thanks to its constant feed of electric power. That extra torque continually enhances the NX's responsiveness, endowing it with the effortless feel one expects of a luxury vehicle. That said, its spendy starting price may make you think twice before popping for it.

Handling is nicely balanced between ride and handling, with some body lean in corners, but it remains moderate. Bump absorption is fairly good, without the excess ride motions that comes with ride compliance. Steering is very numb, robbing what little sportiness this vehicle might have had. Most Lexus drivers won't care.

Overall size remains about the same, with only minor increases in length, width and height.

Inside, the cabin's new look is far better than the old model, particularly up front. The large chunky center console no longer dominates the space. Its design has been pared back, much like the exterior and the results are far more pleasing. But some details, such as the door trim, seem more like afterthoughts than true integrated design.

As before there's good room for front seat passengers and adequate space in the second row, with legroom dependent on the kindness of those in front. The cabin is blessedly quiet. Cargo room is impressive, and there's underfloor storage thanks to the lack of a spare tire, as all 2022 NX models wear run-flat tires.

And wait until you try its digital door handles, which eliminates the need to pull a door handle.

For those who think there are no second acts in American life, the 2022 Lexus NX proves that old saying wrong. With an impressive array of drivelines, pared back styling, impressive new infotainment system, and a perfect size in an ever more crowded world, the NX is an automotive Goldilocks: not too hot, not too cold, but just right.

Stopping catalytic converter thefts

Q: I've read about several catalytic converter thefts recently. My Toyota dealership is advertising a shield for theft protection. What are your thoughts? Does this shield prevent access for car maintenance?

A: Even if the catalytic converter shield does not prevent thieves from getting what they want, it certainly slows them down. And speed is the name of the game for cat thieves so any obstacle sends them searching for an easier mark. Since the cat is not a maintenance item, routine service is not hampered.

■■■

Q: I loved your comment about the oil change intervals. Nobody reads their manual unless they can't change the time on the clock twice a year. I have read our manuals religiously for years. Our vehicles have the oil minder accessible by touching buttons on the steering wheel. And in the manual, it clearly says to change your oil every year or less. The oil minder has usually shown the oil life being diminished at about 15,000 miles. The interesting conversations I have had with kids at the oil change places declaring I am voiding my warranty are a story for another day. None have been able to find in our manual where it says to change the oil every 3,000 miles. Reading the manual is way more fun than a lot of novels, and it actually saves you money. Thanks for pointing that out.

A: Thank you for backing me up.

■■■

Q: I recently had my mechanic put new struts on my 2010 Toyota Matrix purchased used nearly two years ago with 80,000 miles. He put on Excel-G KYB struts. They took the edge off its rough ride but after 3-4 months it seems to be riding like it was before. What gives?

A: The struts you had installed are the same as the original equipment units that came on the vehicle from the factory. Sometimes motorists' perceptions of ride quality change. Sometimes there may be a product issue. KYB is customer friendly and you may email your concerns to kybcs@kyb.com.

■■■

Q: Can having one tire of a different size than the other three cause the TPMS to malfunction, or at least show a malfunction? They haven't been able to figure out why the light keeps coming on. The tires are all good, the system seems to be working fine. This is the only other thing I can think of.

A: You didn't say what make and model car you have, but unmatched tires could be a problem. While most cars have tire pressure sensors mounted on their wheels, others rely on the ABS (antilock brake system) to report if any wheel is spinning faster or slower than the others. Unmatched tires report unequal rotational speeds and that triggers the warning light.

MOTORMOUTH

By BOB WEBER
Tribune News Service

Send questions along with name and town to motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

Life & Style

‘Eternals’ opens with $71M but audience response is mixed

NEW YORK (AP)—“Eternals,” one of Marvel’s most ambitious efforts to expand its superhero universe, arrived in theaters with about $71 million in ticket sales over the weekend, according to studio estimates.

By most studios’ box-office standards, the opening was enviable. Only three other films have debuted better during the pandemic: “Black Widow” ($80.3 million), “Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings” ($75.3 million) and “Venom: Let There Be Carnage” ($90 million). But for Marvel’s well-oiled blockbuster machine, the “Eternals” launch in some ways constituted a bump in the road in an unparalleled 26-film streak.

Going into the weekend, forecasts had been only slightly higher at about $75 million domestically. More concerning for the Walt Disney Co. was the mixed audience response to Chloé Zhao’s 157-minute movie about an immortal race of superheroes. The film is the first in the Marvel “cinematic universe” to rank “rotten” in Rotten Tomatoes’ aggregate critic score, with only 47% of reviews considered positive. Audiences also gave it a lower grade—a “B” CinemaScore—than any previous MCU entry.

But from the start, “Eternals” was a less charted direction for Marvel. By enlisting Zhao, whose “Nomadland” earlier this year won best picture and best director at the Academy Awards, the comic-book factory tapped a lauded filmmaker more associated with arthouse realism than computer-generated spectacle. The story, too, introduces a lesser-known alien class of superheroes, whose existence spans all of human history. With a teeming, diverse cast including Gemma Chan, Richard Madden, Angelina Jolie and Kumail Nanjiani, “Eternals” dared numerous introductions—including the MCU’s first deaf superhero in Lauren Ridloff and the first superhero sex scene—not tried before in the franchise.

David A. Gross, who runs the movie consultancy Franchise Entertainment Research, estimates the negative reception to “Eternals” cost it a modest 10% in box office. He still sees superhero films as driving the recovery of theaters. Marvel movies account for the top four openings of the pandemic.

“‘Eternals’ is by no means a problem,” Gross said in an email. “The film isn’t connecting the way every other Marvel film has, but the box office performance is solid and it maintains October’s level of business.”

“Eternals,” which cost about $200 million to produce, opened strongly overseas, grossing $90.7 million in 46 international territories. The film, however, didn’t open in China and isn’t expected to be granted a release in the future despite being directed by a China-born filmmaker. The previous Marvel release, “Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings,” the studio’s first Asian superhero movie, also hasn’t received permission to open in China.

The reasons for the refusal aren’t clear, but China heavily censors the films it clears for release. U.S.-China relations have grown more tense in recent years. It’s also been widely noted that Zhao said in a 2013 interview that China is “where there are lies everywhere.” In April, her Oscar wins went unreported by China state-run media outlets and mentions of them were scrubbed from the internet in China.

The weekend’s other major new release was “Spencer,” starring Kristen Stewart as Princess Diana. The acclaimed drama, which is expected to land Stewart her first Oscar nomination, launched in 996 locations and grossed $2.1 million for Neon.

1. **“Eternals,” $71 million.**
2. **“Dune,” $7.6 million.**
3. **“No Time to Die,” $6.2 million.**
4. **“Venom: Let There Be Carnage,” $4.5 million.**
5. **“Ron’s Gone Wrong,” $3.6 million.**
6. **“The French Dispatch,” $2.6 million.**
7. **“Halloween Kills,” $2.4 million.**
8. **“Spencer,” $2.1 million.**
9. **“Antlers,” $2 million.**
10. **“Last Night in Soho,” $1.8 million**

The rest of the weekend’s top draws were holdovers.

In its third weekend of release, Denis Villeneuve’s sci-fi epic “Dune” took in $7.6 million for a cumulative total of $83.9 million. Warner Bros., which has announced a sequel to “Dune,” released the film simultaneously on HBO Max.

MGM and United Artists Releasing’s James Bond entry “No Time to Die” grossed $6.1 million in its fifth weekend of release, bringing its domestic haul to $143.2 million. After 31 days exclusively in theaters—much shorter than the three months most Bond films have had on the big screen before being available in the home—“No Time To Die” will be released on video-on-demand Tuesday for $20 rentals.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Comscore. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

Book gets close to the music that made Carpenters superstars

LOS ANGELES (AP)—“Every sha-la-la-la, every woo-wo-o still shines,” the Carpenters’ sang in “Yesterday Once More,” their hit 1973 tribute to the songs of the past.

It could be the tagline of a new book on the work of Richard and Karen Carpenter, which seeks to set aside the noise surrounding the duo and focus on their harmonic creations.

“Carpenters: The Musical Legacy” (Princeton University Press), coming 50 years after the duo’s earliest hits, was co-written by Richard Carpenter, along with Associated Press journalist Mike Cidoni Lennox and Chris May.

Carpenter has passed on many retrospective projects, after facing decades of questions about his sister’s inner life and her death in 1983 from heart failure, a complication of anorexia, at age 32. This was a chance to do something different.

“It was the focus on the music itself, that’s primarily it,” Carpenter told the AP as he sat at his piano in his Southern California home. “It touches on things that we hadn’t touched on before or that if we had, it had been ignored.”

Carpenter

It has the heft and visual history of a coffee table book, but it’s also a nearly note-for-note musical biography of the pair that goes back to their childhood lives in New Haven, Connecticut, where Richard Carpenter found the seeds of the group’s sound in his father’s records and a toy jukebox.

He cites some unexpected influences, including another man-and-woman duo, Les Paul and Mary Ford, whose early experimenting with vocal overdubs and layered harmonies electrified him.

“It made a profound impression on me, that ooh-ah, ooh-ah. I was maybe 5 or 6,” Carpenter said. “I had no idea how all this was done. I just knew it was different and that I really liked it. And many years later, of course, it came up in my mind while I was arranging a lot of things that I wrote the harmonies for.”

He credits a less famous name with a well-known sound, choral arranger Judd Conlon, whose work appeared in Disney’s “Peter Pan” and “Alice in Wonderland.”

“His arranging style for multi-vocals was tight,” Carpenter said. “They were very close harmonies, which had a great big effect on me.”

The book makes clear that their elaborate, multi-layered recordings were made while the young duo maintained a staggering schedule of touring and television appearances.

It gives an accounting of nearly every rainy day and Monday they spent in a hectic 1970, the year “(They Long to Be) Close to You” became their breakthrough hit. Somehow amid it all they recorded their second album, 1971’s “Carpenters,” known to fans as the tan album and regarded by many as their best.

The Carpenters were often derided as makers of schmaltzy throwaway hits. But the book argues they were great creators of fully formed albums, with an incredible run of records between 1970’s “Close to You” and 1973’s “Now & Then,” the concept album that solidified their global stardom.

Wife takes over whole home with remote work

DEAR ABBY: My wife works from home, and we are having a disagreement about the home workspace. She says I interrupt her too much and shouldn’t talk to her so often. While I agree with that, I don’t agree with her roaming around the house with her laptop while she’s in meetings. If I turn on the TV, listen to music or talk on the phone, she gets upset.

I have been digging my heels in saying I’m entitled to enjoy my own home and she should either stay in her home office or go to a coffee shop. To me, what she’s doing is like taking your laptop into the work break room and telling people to be quiet because she’s in a meeting.

I know her job is stressful and she gets anxious, so now I’m torn. Am I unrealistic to expect her not to make our entire house her office?

WALKING ON EGGSHELLS

DEAR WALKING: People create home offices for a reason. It’s a dedicated, organized place to work. Your wife should not be “roaming the house” with her laptop and insisting you maintain complete silence. Ideally, some physical boundaries should be set that equitably divide the house between her “office” and the “rest of the house.”

Another suggestion might be for you to find some activity away from your home a couple of mornings or afternoons a week—a part-time job, a sport or volunteering—while she’s busy in meetings. This might provide you with more social contact. The two of you should have a (calm) discussion and see what works for you.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I got engaged a while back. In the midst of wedding planning, the question of who will walk me down the aisle has come up. My fiance despises my father (he’s witnessed the damage my dad has done to me), but I forgave Dad and feel neutral about his presence. My mom has voiced—begged, actually—that I allow her and Dad to give me away since she didn’t have either parent there for her wedding.

I don’t have an opinion on the subject. My mom for sentimental reasons does. But my future husband can’t bear the sight of my dad. This is causing me so much anxiety, I have thought about calling the whole thing off on more than one occasion.

If I oblige my mom, my fiance will be unhappy (to say the least), and if I oblige my fiance, I’ll break Mom’s heart. I can find no middle ground here and feel as if I lose on both sides. Any advice on how to proceed?

TORN BRIDE-TO-BE

DEAR TORN: This is your and your fiance’s wedding. It should not be influenced by your mother’s history. I do have a suggestion: Rather than make yourself sick with anxiety, walk YOURSELF down the aisle. Many modern brides do it these days. Your mother could give a reading or sit with your father in the front row and cheer you on. Who escorts you down the aisle should not be decided by her.

P.S. Have you thought about how your fiance’s antipathy for your father may affect your marriage? What’s happening now isn’t conducive to a happy marriage. Before you step foot on that trip down the aisle, it needs to be resolved. Family counseling might help the four of you, because once you tie the knot, your fiance will be part of the family.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Should aging parents have to pay their children to take them to appointments or elsewhere?

WONDERING PARENT

DEAR WONDERING PARENT: I’m guessing you and your spouse did plenty of “chauffeuring” before your children had driver’s licenses. The “child” who suggested it should be ashamed of themself.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

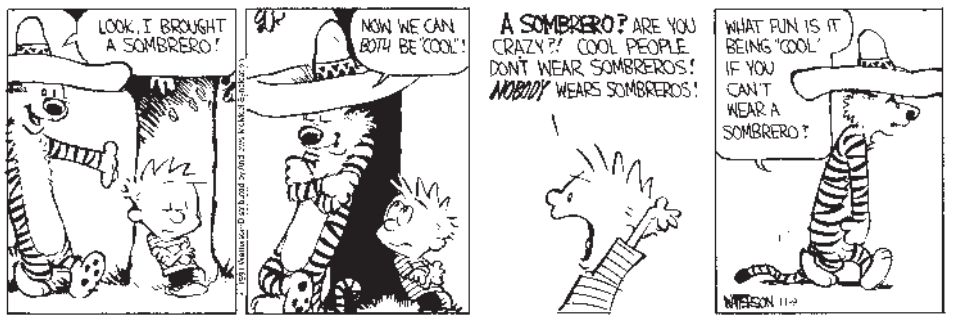
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

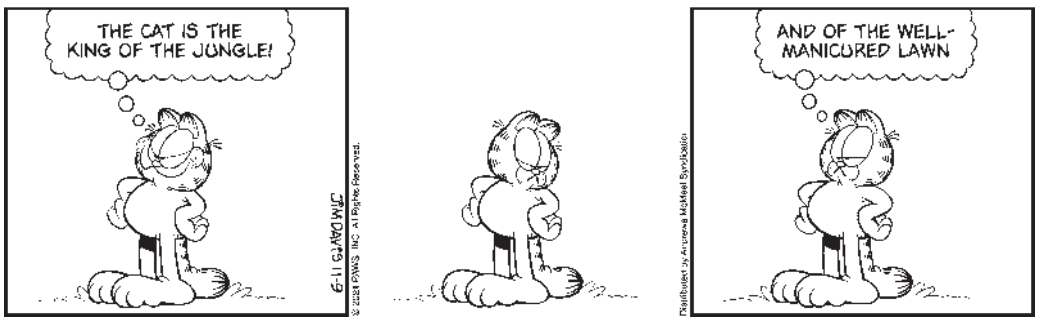
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


LOOK, I BROUGHT A SOMBRERO!
NOW WE CAN BOTH BE "COOL"!
A SOMBRERO? ARE YOU CRAZY?! COOL PEOPLE DON'T WEAR SOMBRERO'S! NOBODY WEARS SOMBRERO'S!
WHAT FUN IS IT BEING "COOL" IF YOU CAN'T WEAR A SOMBRERO?

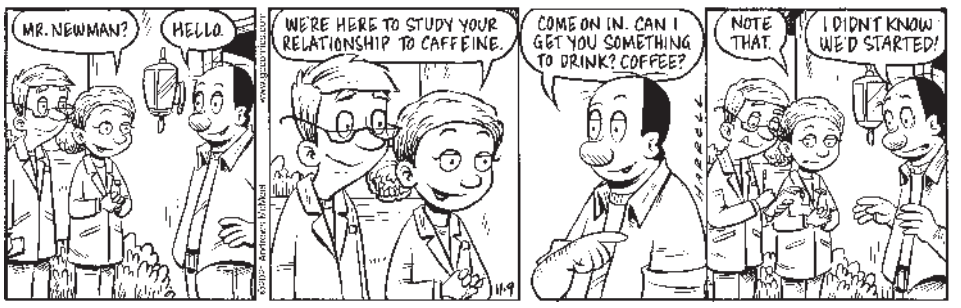
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



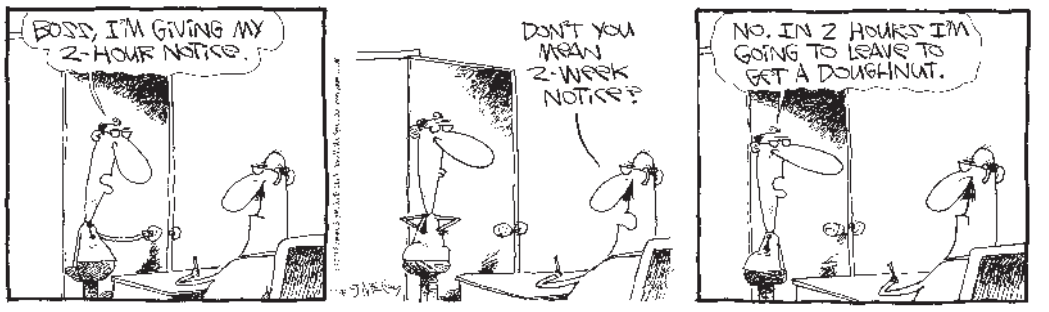
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


MR. NEWMAN?
HELLO.
WE'RE HERE TO STUDY YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO CAFFEINE.
COME ON IN. CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING TO DRINK? COFFEE?
NOTE THAT.
I DIDN'T KNOW WE'D STARTED!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Fed. agents
5 Prima donna
9 Patient's need, briefly
12 Harvard rival
13 "Dream on!"
14 Vacuum's lack
15 Be hugely successful
17 Actress Salonga
18 Read quickly
19 Nonsense
21 Shill
24 Delhi dress
25 Privy to
26 Brief scene
30 "Rugrats" dad
31 Factions
32 British ref. work
33 Barnard and Vassar, e.g.
35 — -ho (zealous)
36 Comic Carvey
37 Sucker
38 A deadly sin
40 Portent
42 Fez, e.g.
43 "Finish the job"
48 NYPD alert
49 Military no-show
50 Colorations
51 Mao — -tung
52 Onion's kin
53 Nest egg choices

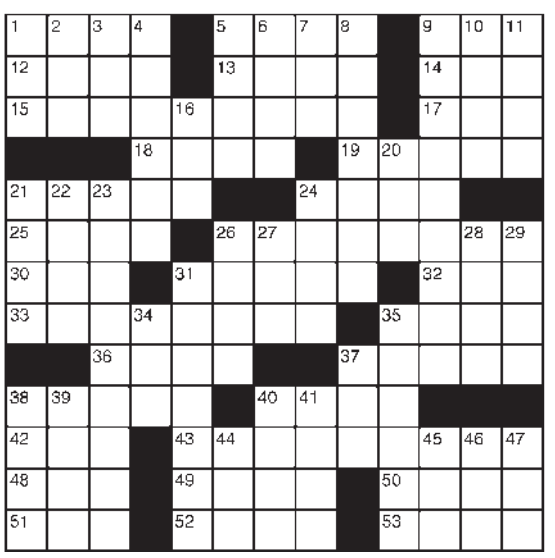
DOWN

1 Workout site
2 Goat's plaint
3 Antlered grazer
4 "Taken" star Liam
5 Facts and figures
6 Dust jacket ID
7 Half of XIV
8 Some blankets
9 Resolve via discussion
10 Stead
11 Study all night
16 Glacial
20 Vein yield
21 Platter
22 Within (Pref.)
23 "Is this a dream?"
24 LAPD ranks
26 Lyra's brightest star
27 "Rocks"
28 Sawbucks
29 Jittery
31 Mali neighbor
34 Young fellow
35 Indira of India
37 Favorite
38 Excellent, in slang
39 Knocks
40 Oklahoma tribe
41 Coconut juice
44 Farm female
45 "— Town"
46 Museum-funding org.
47 Twisty letter

Solution time: 22 mins.

B	N	A	I	■	C	M	P	■	H	O	P	S
¯	F	E	N	A	G	F	R	■	U	K	F	S
W	O	R	M	I	O	I	F	■	R	I	O	¯
■	■	■	A	M	S	■	S	¯	R	E	N	S
A	G	A	T	E	■	F	E	¯	A	■	■	■
S	L	U	E	■	W	O	R	S	H	I	P	■
P	O	T	■	N	E	R	V	Y	■	G	A	H
■	W	O	R	D	A	G	E	■	C	O	R	E
■	■	■	A	A	R	E	■	A	R	R	A	Y
A	L	A	S	K	A	■	A	N	I	■	■	■
G	A	S	H	■	W	O	R	K	S	H	O	P
R	O	T	E	■	A	L	C	A	P	O	N	E
A	S	I	S	■	Y	E	S	■	S	T	O	P

Yesterday's answer 11-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cory Hardrict, 42; Eric Dane, 49; Susan Tedeschi, 51; Lou Ferrigno, 70.

Happy Birthday: Establish what you want to accomplish. An organized approach to life, love and financial matters will alleviate stress and worry. Having balance will be your ticket to freedom and the success you aim to achieve. Look for unique pastimes that will stimulate you mentally and physically, promote self-satisfaction and confidence. A passionate, inquisitive mind will bring positive change. Your numbers are 3, 17, 20, 23, 31, 38, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Do what's necessary, then get on with life. Finishing what you start will be a relief and lift a burden that's been weighing you down. Alter your lifestyle to encourage a healthy and happy future. Healthy eating, routines and exercise are encouraged. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Push what you know and do well. Promote what you have to offer, not what you can't. Be the first to make a move, change your direction or incorporate something new and exciting into the mix, and you will advance. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Look at the good, the bad and how to find the middle ground when dealing with peers, relatives and anyone in a position of authority. Knowing who you are dealing with will be your ticket to saying and doing what others expect of you. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Participate, and you'll have more control. Get involved in something that concerns you or will help you get ahead. Raise your qualifications, and eliminate restrictions due to a lack of keeping up with technology or the latest in your line of work. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Refuse to let change cause stress. Analyze the situation, get an expert opinion and take a minimalist approach to the way you move forward. Aim to stabilize and secure your position, life and relationships, not exacerbate them. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* You have everything in place; don't procrastinate or hold up progress in pursuit of perfection. How much you achieve will be just as important as the details you apply. The balance between quantity and quality will be your passage to success and fulfillment. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Keeping the peace is essential if you want to finish what you start. A steady pace forward with an optimistic attitude will help contest any obstacles you encounter. Trust your instincts, and pursue what is in your best interest. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* It's OK to mull over options, but you must realize following through is the path to peace of mind. Do your research and move forward with your plans, and you'll leave a lasting impression on those waiting to see you make a move. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Trust your instincts, not what someone leads you to believe. Focus on what's important to you and where you can gain the most ground financially. Be direct, leave no room for error and keep your costs within reason. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Seize the moment, and take care of business. Gain experience and knowledge through observation and discussions with experts. Develop your style by implementing the best of what you collect from those you encounter. Strive for excellence in all you pursue. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Through adversity comes the strength of vision and an enriched sense of what you are capable of accomplishing. Stand tall and do your own thing, you'll discover what works best for you. Keep your plans to yourself until you iron out the flaws. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Be careful how you handle money matters and joint ventures. Make your voice heard, and stay in the loop. Don't leave money and essential decisions in someone else's hands. Implement the changes that ensure your success. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are relentless, original and powerful. You are sensitive and loving.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

4		2		5	9			
			8			6		
9					3		7	
	9					2		5
6				3				8
8		7					4	
	7		3					4
		6			5			
			9	2		8		1

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

2	4	7	3	9	5	1	8	6
9	1	6	8	4	2	3	5	7
3	5	8	1	7	6	9	2	4
4	9	5	7	3	1	8	6	2
1	8	2	4	6	9	5	7	3
7	6	3	5	2	8	4	9	1
6	3	4	9	8	7	2	1	5
8	7	1	2	5	3	6	4	9
5	2	9	6	1	4	7	3	8

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CORRALLING HORSES Solution: 8 letters

M	F	W	O	O	D	E	N	L	A	S	S	O	S	S
S	U	E	R	A	L	L	O	C	W	M	U	C	K	T
E	R	N	E	D	E	C	(E)	I	I	R	A	I	L	S
S	E	E	I	D	K	D	(L)	N	R	A	B	N	T	O
I	L	R	C	M	L	D	(O)	C	E	F	T	A	R	P
C	B	K	D	N	U	O	(P)	M	O	C	B	R	A	L
R	A	N	C	H	E	L	T	B	E	L	S	H	E	D
E	V	O	J	O	A	F	A	S	I	S	Y	E	G	E
X	O	U	U	R	D	R	E	N	L	E	T	A	G	S
E	M	W	R	T	B	D	G	S	L	S	U	I	L	H
P	G	O	A	E	D	O	A	O	E	Y	D	A	C	E
A	C	N	D	T	S	O	R	P	R	C	N	T	P	L
N	S	T	I	K	E	F	O	E	U	D	A	I	D	T
E	G	A	T	H	E	R	F	R	G	L	P	R	V	E
L	N	O	I	T	C	U	R	T	S	N	O	C	B	R

© 2021 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.wonderword.com 11/9

Aluminum, Barbed, Barn, Braces, Bridle, Collar, Compound, Construction, Corral, Domestic, Duty, Exercise, Farm, Feedlots, Fencers, Food, Forage, Gate, Gather, Gear, Hinge, Jump, Kits, Land, Lassos, Latch, Lock, Movable, Muck, Outdoors, Paddock, Panel, Pipe, Pole, Posts, Rail, Ranch, Rugs, Shed, Shelter, Stabling, Steel, Tree, Vinyl, Water, Wild, Wire, Wooden

Yesterday's Answer: Sex and the City

To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volumes 47 through 62 order on line at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Jaguars stun Bills 9-6 in game with no touchdowns

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP)—Jacksonville had the better Josh Allen on this Sunday, with the standout linebacker intercepting a pass, making a sack and recovering a fumble in a 9-6 upset of the Buffalo Bills.

Buffalo's star quarterback with the same first and last names turned over the ball three times, including twice in the second half. He didn't have a second-half turnover in any previous game this season.

The Bills (5-3) lost for the second time in seven games. The Jaguars (2-6) rebounded from a debacle at Seattle a week ago.

Buffalo's Allen completed 31 of 47 passes for 264 yards, with the two interceptions and a fumble.

Jacksonville Jaguars linebacker Josh Allen (41) celebrates after sacking Buffalo Bills quarterback Josh Allen during the first half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021, in Jacksonville, Fla.

AP

The first of two deciding moments came on a third-and-2 play at the Jaguars 37 with about 5 1-2 minutes remaining. Allen fumbled after getting pressured by Dawuane Smoot. The other Josh Allen recovered.

Buffalo got the ball back in the waning minutes and advanced to the Jaguars 39. But Smoot sacked Allen on third down. It was Jacksonville's fourth sack of the day.

Allen got the first one. It was the first time a player sacked a quarterback with the same name since the NFL started counting sacks in 1982.

Allen and Allen had been looking forward to this meeting, although Buffalo's Allen made it clear he didn't want to get acquainted with Jacksonville's Allen in the backfield. It nonetheless happened when Allen beat Dion Dawkins off the edge.

The players with the same first and last name had never meet before Sunday even though they were both selected with the seventh pick in consecutive NFL drafts. They have exchanged messages via social media.

Jaguars kicker Matt Wright missed three straight field-goal attempts—all left—in a matter of minutes in the third quarter. Wright did have three field goals for all his team's points, hitting from 39, 55 and 21 yards.

Chiefs 13, Packers 7

In Kansas City, Mo., Patrick Mahomes threw for 166 yards and a touchdown, Kansas City relentlessly blitzed the Packers' Jordan Love in his highly anticipated first start in place of Aaron Rodgers.

Rodgers tested positive for COVID-19 earlier this week, forcing the reigning MVP to miss his first game since the 2017 season. Love responded by going 19 of 34 for 190 yards with a touchdown and an interception, both of them coming in the fourth quarter when the Packers were trying to rally from a 13-0 deficit against the defending AFC champs.

Love's touchdown pass to Allen Lazard with 4:49 left gave Green Bay a chance. But Mahomes threw a dart to Tyreek Hill on third-and-10 near midfield with less than two minutes left for a first down that allowed the Chiefs to run out the clock.

Travis Kelce had five catches for 68 yards and a touchdown for the Chiefs (5-4), who have won their three of their last four games despite a problematic offense. They finished with just 237 yards against Green Bay.

Titans 28, Rams 16

In Inglewood, Calif., Kevin Byard returned Matthew Stafford's second consecutive interception 24 yards for a touchdown, and Tennessee's defense carried the Titans to a win over Los Angeles in a showdown between conference co-leaders.

Jeffery Simmons had three of Tennessee's five sacks of Stafford during a stifling performance against the Rams' prolific passing offense. Stafford crucially threw back-to-back interceptions that the Titans turned into 14 points in 11 seconds of the second quarter, sending them well on their way to their fifth consecutive victory.

Ryan Tannehill passed for 143 yards and a touchdown and rushed for another score for the Titans (7-2), who managed just 194 offensive yards in their first game without injured NFL rushing leader Derrick Henry.

Adrian Peterson rushed for just 21 yards, but the veteran running back made a 6-yard TD run with 3:00 left in the first game of his 15th NFL season.

Cardinals 31, 49ers 17

In Santa Clara, Calif., James Conner ran for two touchdowns and caught a 45-yard TD pass from backup quarterback Colt McCoy for the short-handed Cardinals.

The Cardinals (8-1) were playing without quarterback Kyler Murray and receivers DeAndre Hopkins and A.J. Green but still had little trouble completing the season sweep against the 49ers (3-5). Conner scored on TD runs on back-to-back drives in the first quarter to stake the Cardinals to a big lead they never relinquished. Conner's long catch-and-run TD on Arizona's first drive of the second half helped put the game out of reach.

Conner finished with 173 yards from scrimmage and now leads the NFL in TDs with 11, all scored in the past seven games.

Broncos 30, Cowboys 16

In Arlington, Texas, Teddy Bridgewater threw for a touchdown and had a sneak for another, and the Broncos stymied the NFL's No. 1 offense, ending the Cowboys' six-game winning streak.

Dak Prescott returned after missing a game with a strained right calf but couldn't get the Cowboys (6-2) moving until two meaningless late touchdowns that merely avoided what would have been their worst shutout loss at home since 1985.

The Broncos (5-4) sacked Prescott twice, both by rookie Jonathon Cooper for the first of his career, and generally made him uncomfortable in their first game since trading star pass rusher Von Miller—and with new team sacks leader Malik Reed (hip injury) inactive.

Ravens 34, Vikings 31, OT

In Baltimore, Justin Tucker kicked a 36-yard field goal with 16 seconds left in overtime. The AFC North-leading Ravens (6-2) rallied from a 14-point third-quarter deficit and survived an acrobatic interception by Minnesota's Anthony Barr on the first possession of overtime. Barr tipped Lamar Jackson's pass and caught it out of the air, giving the Vikings the ball at their 38, but Minnesota went three-and-out, and Baltimore drove into Tucker's range again.

This was a much easier kick than Tucker's previous winning effort—a record-setting 66-yarder to beat Detroit earlier this season.

It was the third overtime game of the season for each team. They both had split their first two. It was another agonizing loss for the Vikings (3-5), who have not dropped a game all season by more than seven points.

Falcons 27, Saints 25

In New Orleans, Matt Ryan hit Cordarrelle Patterson for a 64-yard gain with a minute to go, setting up Younghoe Koo's 29-yard field goal as time expired.

Ryan passed for 343 yards, connected twice with Olamide Zaccheaus for touchdowns, and the veteran quarterback also ran for a score on a bootleg. Ryan's second scoring pass gave the Falcons a 24-6 lead with 10:39 left in the fourth quarter. But the Saints rallied to briefly take the lead on Trevor Siemian's 8-yard pass to Kenny Stills with 1:01 left.

New Orleans then missed a 2-point conversion try for the second time in the game, leaving the door open for the Falcons to win with a field goal.

Browns 41, Bengals 16

In Cincinnati, Baker Mayfield threw two touchdown passes, Nick Chubb ran for 137 yards and the Browns, sparked by cornerback Denzel Ward's early 99-yard interception return for a TD, capped a chaotic week by smashing the Bengals.

The Browns (5-4) came in desperate for a win after dropping three of four. Their situation turned dramatic on Wednesday when star wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. was exiled for poor behavior and the team decided to release him.

But like last year, when Mayfield played more freely after Beckham suffered a season-ending knee injury at Cincinnati, Cleveland's QB was on target. The Browns put together their most complete game this season to humble the Bengals (5-4), who hurt themselves with mistakes as they dropped their second straight.

Giants 23, Raiders 16

In East Rutherford, N.J., Xavier McKinney returned an interception 41 yards for a touchdown early in the second half and picked off another errant throw by Derek Carr late.

Daniel Jones threw a 30-yard touchdown pass to Evan Engram and Graham Gano added three field goals—the last after McKinney's second pick—for New York (3-6). Filling in for the injured Saquon Barkley, former Raider Devontae Booker ran for 99 yards before leaving late with a hip injury.

Carr threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Hunter Renfrow for the Raiders (5-3), who are an NFL-worst 3-16 after a week off over the last 19 years. The usually accurate quarterback also missed a wide-open Darren Waller for another score just before halftime as the Raiders settled for three short field goals by Daniel Carlson, who also missed a 25-yarder in the second half.

Patriots 24, Panthers 6

In Charlotte, N.C., Mac Jones overcame two early turnovers and threw for 139 yards and a touchdown, J.C. Jackson returned one of three Sam Darnold interceptions for an 88-yard touchdown for New England.

Rookie running back Rhamondre Stevenson had 106 yards from scrimmage before leaving with a head injury, and Damien Harris and Hunter Henry scored touchdowns as the Patriots (5-4) improved to 4-0 on the road.

Darnold had another miserable outing for Carolina. He finished 16 of 33 for 172 yards with three picks, two by Jackson after the Panthers (4-5) reached the red zone. Darnold has been intercepted nine times and thrown only one touchdown in four career games against the Bill Belichick-coached Patriots.

Dolphins 17, Texans 9

In Miami Gardens, Fla., in the NFL's most turnover-filled game in more than five seasons, the Dolphins got 244 yards passing and a touchdown throw from surprise starter Jacoby Brissett.

The game between two teams that entered with 1-7 records and both on seven-game losing streaks lived up—or down—to its billing. The Dolphins and Texans combined for nine turnovers. Miami had five, Houston four, and somehow the Dolphins (2-7) won anyway.

It was Miami's first win while committing at least five turnovers since Oct. 18, 1990. The Dolphins had been 0-21 in such games since. And it was the most turnovers in an NFL game since the New York Jets and Kansas City also combined for nine on Sept. 25, 2016.

Brissett filled in again for Tua Tagovailoa, who missed the game with a finger injury on his throwing hand.

Chargers 27, Eagles 24

In Philadelphia, Justin Herbert threw two touchdown passes and ran for a score, and Dustin Hopkins kicked a 29-yard field goal with 2 seconds remaining. Herbert threw for 356 yards, completing 32 of 38 passes. He got 1 yard on a sneak on fourth-and-1 from the Eagles 28 with 1:45 left, setting up Hopkins' kick.

The Chargers (5-3) snapped a two-game losing streak. The Eagles (3-6) still haven't won a home game in four tries under rookie coach Nick Sirianni.

The teams traded touchdowns on four straight drives in the second half before the final series.

Los Angeles went ahead 16-10 on Herbert's 8-yard TD pass to Donald Parham Jr., but Hopkins missed the extra point. The Eagles quickly answered with Kenneth Gainwell running in from the 1 to take a 17-16 lead. Hurts completed 3 of 4 passes on that drive for 63 yards. He was 4 of 9 for 54 yards to that point.

Durant, Harden help Nets beat Raptors for 5th straight win

TORONTO (AP)—Kevin Durant had 31 points, James Harden scored 16 of his 28 points in the fourth quarter and the Brooklyn Nets won their fifth straight game, beating the Toronto Raptors 116-103 on Sunday.

"Our defense was there when we needed it to be," Durant said. "We got stops and made shots."

Harden narrowly missed his second straight triple-double, finishing with 10 rebounds and eight assists.

"When he's at that level, he makes us go," Brooklyn's Blake Griffin said about Harden. "We, as a team, can go to a different level."

Harden missed his first seven shots from beyond the arc before connecting with 4:34 left to play the fourth, extending a seven-point Nets lead to double digits. He added two more from distance in the final quarter.

"James was special there in the fourth," Durant said.

Griffin had 14 points and 11 rebounds, and Patty Mills scored 13 points to help Steve Nash earn the victory in his first game in his home country as an NBA head coach.

"That means a lot," Nash said. "This is a very special place for me. Not only Canada, but Toronto. I've spent so much of my time here, I have so many close friends, relationships, and memories in this city. For me, this is definitely a sweet win."

Durant reached 20 points for the 10th straight game, extending both his career-best streak to begin a season and the Nets' record for 20-point games at the start of a season.

"Like we said since Day 1, he's been unbelievable this season at both ends of the floor, rebounding, scoring, facilitating" Nash said.

Durant was playing in Toronto for the first time since tearing his left Achilles tendon while playing for Golden State in Game 5 of the 2019 NBA Finals.

"The last time I was here was one of my lowest moments as a basketball player," Durant said. "It's good to come back here playing and see the fans again."

The 11-time All-Star shot 11 for 18, going 3 for 6 from 3-point range, and 6 for 6 at the free throw line. He had seven rebounds and seven assists.

Fred VanVleet scored 21 points, OG Anunoby had 16 and Gary Trent Jr. scored 15 points for the Raptors, who have lost two straight after winning the previous five.

Toronto (7 for 25) matched its season-low with seven made 3-pointers. The Raptors also had seven in their season-opening loss to Washington.

Brooklyn Nets forward Kevin Durant (7) looks to move the ball as Toronto Raptors guard Fred VanVleet (23) defends during second-half NBA basketball game action in Toronto, Sunday, Nov. 7, 2021. AP

Raptors forward Pascal Siakam made his first start of the season after missing the first 10 games because of left shoulder surgery. Siakam scored 15 points in 25 minutes. He shot 5 for 12.

"My legs were heavy," Siakam said. "I was out of breath after about three minutes."

Toronto led 60-53 at halftime, but Brooklyn reclaimed the lead with a 9-0 run to begin the third that was capped by a 3-pointer from Griffin. Durant scored 13 points in the quarter and Griffin had seven as the Nets took an 88-77 lead to the fourth.

Warriors 120, Rockets 107

In San Francisco, Jordan Poole scored 15 of his 25 points in the first quarter and Golden State beat Houston.

Stephen Curry added 20 points and three steals to help the NBA-leading Warriors improve to 8-1 with their fourth victory in a row.

Jae'Sean Tate led Houston with 21 points and 10 rebounds. The Rockets have lost eight straight and are tied with New Orleans at an NBA-worst 1-0.

Wizards 101, Bucks 94

In Washington, Bradley Beal scored 30 points and Washington beat Milwaukee.

Kyle Kuzma added 15 points and 10 rebounds to help Washington snap an eight-game losing streak in the series with the Bucks. Montrezl Harrell also had 15 points.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 29 points and 18 rebounds for the defending champion Bucks. They have lost five of six to drop to 4-6.

Cavaliers 126, Knicks 109

In New York, Ricky Rubio scored a career-high 37 to help Cleveland beat New York.

Cleveland has won four in a row to improve to 7-4. Evan Mobley added 26 points, Jarrett Allen had 18 and Darius Garland 16. Rubio's previous career high was 34 with Utah against San Antonio in 2018.

Julius Randle led New York with 19 points.

Magic 107, Jazz 100

In Orlando, Fla., Cole Anthony scored 10 of his season-best 33 points in the fourth quarter and keyed a game-closing 24-11 run in Orlando's victory over Utah.

Wendell Carter Jr. added a season-best 22 points and 15 rebounds.

Donovan Mitchell scored 21 points for Utah. Rudy Gobert had 21 points and 15 rebounds.

Thunder 99, Spurs 94

In Oklahoma City, Mike Muscala scored 20 points in 14 minutes and Oklahoma City rallied to beat San Antonio.

The Muscala made 5 of 6 field goals and 7 of 9 free throws in one of the most productive offensive games of his career.

Keldon Johnson scored 22 points for San Antonio,

Pacers 94, Kings 91

In Sacramento, Calif., Caris LeVert scored 22 points and Indiana held off Sacramento after blowing a 15-point lead.

Domontas Sabonis had 17 points and 10 rebounds to help Indiana to its first win in Sacramento since 2018. T.J. McConnell added 17 point.

Harrison Barnes scored 22 points for Sacramento.

Clippers 120, Hornets 106

In Los Angeles, Paul George scored 20 points, Reggie Jackson added 19 and the Los Angeles Clippers beat the Charlotte Hornets 120-106 on Sunday night for their fourth straight victory.

Luke Kennard had 18 points, and Terance Mann finished with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Down 13 in the first quarter and in a nine-point hole with less than seven minutes remaining, the Clippers had a 22-0 run to take a 115-102 lead.

LaMelo Ball, from nearby Chino Hills, had 21 points for the Hornets in their fourth straight loss. Ball played his first game in Los Angeles since a right wrist fracture against the Clippers last March forced him to miss 21 games.

Miles Bridges also had 21 points for the Hornets, and Terry Rozier added 17.

Charlotte got a 3-pointer from Rozier with 7:09 to play, then didn't make another field goal until a layup by Bridges with 1:09 remaining.

NBA to players, coaches, refs: Booster shots are recommended

MIAMI (AP)—The NBA told its players, coaches and referees on Sunday that they should receive booster shots against the coronavirus, with particular urgency for those who received the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

The league and the National Basketball Players Association—working jointly based on guidance from the NBA's public health and infectious disease experts—said those who received Johnson & Johnson shots more than two months ago should get a booster. The booster recommendation also was made for those who received the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine at least six months ago.

The league recommendations, which were obtained by The Associated Press, called for those who got Johnson & Johnson vaccines originally to seek a Pfizer or Moderna booster. Those who got Pfizer or Moderna may simply get whatever booster is available, the league said.

Data used to make the league's determinations showed that antibody levels for Pfizer and Moderna recipients wane after six months, and after two months for Johnson & Johnson recipients.

Some teams already have been planning for players to receive booster shots when available. A small number of previously vaccinated NBA players have tested positive this season for COVID-19 and entered the league's health and safety protocols.

Philadelphia 76ers head coach Doc Rivers looks towards referee Tre Maddox during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Detroit Pistons, Thursday, Nov. 4, 2021, in Detroit. AP

Among those sidelined of late: Philadelphia's Tobias Harris, who had symptoms, 76ers coach Doc Rivers said.

"He's doing OK but not great, honestly. ... It hit him for sure," Rivers said last week. "A lot of guys have had this and they are mad, like 'What the hell, I'm fine.' Tobias is not in that category right now, I can tell you that."

In some cases, those who are vaccinated but elect to not receive a booster would be subjected to game-day testing again starting Dec. 1, the NBA said. That Dec. 1 date varies depending on when the person was originally vaccinated and what type of vaccine they received.

About 97% of NBA players were believed to be vaccinated when the season started last month. In the U.S., nearly 60% of the population—more than 193 million people—are fully vaccinated. More than 21 million have received a booster dose, and those numbers are soaring each day.

NBA'S

From Page 20

athletes didn't have to be UOG students. In the one season that he played, he was named MVP of the Guam Basketball League and led the Tritons to an undefeated season.

Stotts went on to play and coach at the professional level in Spain, Italy, and France and nationally in the Continental Basketball Association and the National Basketball Association, recently ending a nine-year stint as head coach of the Portland Trail Blazers. Since 1992, he has also been head coach for the Atlanta Hawks and the Milwaukee Bucks and assistant coach for several teams, including the Dallas Mavericks when the team won the NBA title in 2011.

"Basketball has given me a chance to travel around the world, get a good education, make a good living, meet some unbelievable people, but the truth is, it started here on Guam. I wouldn't have been able to do those things if I hadn't had the opportunity to grow as a person and as a player here in Guam," Stotts said.

He gained a foundation in basketball playing at Dededo Junior High and then at John F. Kennedy High School. He eventually played college basketball at the University of Oklahoma.

Another highlight of the ceremony was the induction of the person who first brought athletics to the University of Guam: the late Antonio C. Yamashita, the first president of the University of Guam when it was the Territorial College of Guam. He was represented at the ceremony by several family members, including his grandson, Ryan Arriola, who delivered remarks.

"My granddad believed that a huge component of any successful endeavor is community engagement," Arriola said. "He knew that an athletics program would motivate players, students, family, and the community to identify with UOG. He knew that a sense of pride would emanate from competitive sports. He knew that athletics adds a vibrant energy to academia."

Yamashita, an athlete himself, initiated the varsity sports program at the college in 1962 that grew to include football, baseball, basketball, and volleyball throughout the 1960s and 1970s.

Also inducted into the Hall of Fame were:

Class of 2020

- Rob Call – Head football coach who led the team to its first championships in 1975 and 1977
- Swingly Dismas – Recreation supervisor for the past 18 years who kept the athletics spirit alive with club and intramural sports when there were no varsity sports
- Rick Manibusan – Baseball pitcher from 1973–1978 selected for the Guam Major League All-Star Team and football player from 1973–1974
- Richard Martinez – Baseball catcher in the early 1980s, known as the "Son of Slam" and considered the best power hitter of his time
- Art Merlan – Football quarterback of the 1975 championship team
- Cecile C. Olandez – Current coach and former player of the women's basketball team who led the team to the championship game in her first year coaching
- Antonio C. Yamashita, Ed.D. – First president of the Territorial College of Guam who also started the athletics programs in 1962

Class of 2021

- Vic April – Baseball center fielder and leadoff hitter who played in two championships
- Robert Borden – Team captain of the first men's volleyball team to play with a sponsor in the early 2000s
- Vicente "Ben" Diaz – Football defensive back on the championship 1975 team and a two-time All-League Defensive Back
- Bruce A. Haines – The first athletics director and basketball coach for the Territorial College of Guam in 1963
- Gage Johnson – Basketball player in 1968 who was the first Triton to score 40 points in a game
- Noriekka Lekka – A star recreational and intramural student-athlete through 2018
- Uchel Sechewas – Right-handed baseball pitcher and first baseman for two championship teams
- Terry L. Stotts – Basketball player for the Tritons as a 16-year-old who was named MVP of the Guam Basketball League

These two classes join three others bringing the Triton Athletics Hall of Fame, which was initially established by Athletics Director Doug Palmer in 2017, to five classes and 37 members.

"We now have five classes in the Hall of Fame, and it's been a great journey, digging through UOG's athletics history. I've been proud to do it," Palmer said. "We hope this tradition will continue for many years to come."

The induction ceremony is viewable on the Triton Athletics YouTube channel. The Hall of Fame members and Triton Athletics history can be viewed on the Wall of Fame entering the Calvo Field House and on the Athletics Hall of Fame Conference Room in the Triton Fitness Center at the Field House.

If anyone in the community has memories of exceptional athletes or coaches in Triton Athletics history, contact Doug Palmer at (671) 735-2862 or palmerd@triton.uog.edu. ***(PR)***

Sen. Vinnie "Vinson" Sablan (R-Saipan), leftmost and the coordinator of the 18th Annual NMI Crime Stoppers Softball Fundraising Tournament, poses with runner-up Tan Siu Lin Foundation. MARK RABAGO

'An important cause to prevent crime'

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The coordinator of the recently concluded 18th Annual NMI Crime Stoppers Softball Fundraising Tournament thanked all the sponsors of the event and said the program is an integral part of helping to prevent crime in the Commonwealth.

"A sincere appreciation to all the sponsors for their generous contributions to a great cause. An important cause to prevent crime in the CNMI. Through their continued support the teams and players come out and compete, but most importantly spread awareness to our community to be vigilant and be the eyes and ears to ensure our community and our residents remain safe," said Sen. Vinnie "Vinson" Sablan (R-Saipan).

The sponsors of the 18th Annual NMI Crime Stoppers Softball Fundraising Tournament are MegaByte, MARPAC, IT&E, Docomo Pacific, Pacific Amusement, BRABU Pharmacy, Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Saipan Stevedore, Saipan Vegas, and Bridge Capital LLC.

MegaByte won an unprecedented seventh straight championship and eighth overall after topping the 18th Annual NMI Crime Stoppers Softball Fundraising Tournament last Oct. 30 at the Capitol Hill baseball field.

The erstwhile six-time defending champions, made up of family members, actually swept through the elimination round to finish as the No. 1 seed. It then faced tourney newcomer Tan Siu Lin Foundation in the finals and was upset, 16-15, in Game 1.

Good thing they had the twice-to-beat advantage in the championship round of the double-elimination tournament, as MegaByte quickly regrouped in Game 2, smacking the upstart TSL team, 22-10, to win it all again.

Former NMI Crime Stoppers coordinator Tom Blas and Department of Public Safety's Jerry Ayuyu worked together with the NMI Crime Stoppers board of directors to create the fundraising softball tournament 18 years ago. This event not only showcases some of the best softball talents the CNMI has to offer, but also provides opportunities for businesses to get together and have a weekend of camaraderie and fun—all for a great cause.

The NMI Crime Stoppers program was founded in 1989 and works with Law Enforcement (local and federal), the media and the community to help prevent and solve crime.

If you have any information on the cases posted on this web site please use our secure online submission form or call the NMI Crime Stoppers tips line at 234-7272 (PARA) or *11 from any IT&E Cellular phone (Toll free from Tinian and Rota) to give your information. When you call the Crime Stoppers tips line, you do not need to give your name; we only want the information regarding a case. You can call NMI Crime Stoppers if you have information on other illegal activities or crimes not listed on this page. NMI Crime Stoppers will pay you up to $1,000 for information that leads to an arrest.

IAKOPO

From Page 20

spire others in her home island to spread their wings and take part in competitions outside of Tinian or pick up bodybuilding as a sport.

"I just want to say I'm extremely grateful for this opportunity and I hope I can serve as someone that motivate other people who want to do this, who'd like to engage to do this type of discipline and that it's possible. I'm only 17 and I'm from Tinian and Tinian's first competitor [in the Dee Clayton Classic]. So I'm just glad that I get to represent them in my behalf," she said.

The daughter of Tinian businessman Philip Mendiola-Long said sometimes people really don't understand the preparation that goes behind bodybuilding.

"It's very strict and you learn a lot about yourself in the process. You really get to understand what fuels yourself and what is properly able to be consumed. You also engage in extreme workouts—high reps, high weight, low reps, low weight. It can range from anywhere. It's very strict but it's a great experience," she said.

Long also reiterated how proud she is representing Tinian in the Dee Clayton Classic.

"I love my home. I love my island and I'm just glad to be their first competitor from there."

Mijana Malabayabas finished second to Long in the bikini category with 6 points, while Divine Sablan was third with 5 points.

In the fitness category, Vanessa Lorejo triumphed with a perfect score of 9 points followed by Desolee Calayo and Rosana Lopez with 6 points and 4 points apiece. Jamila Alegre was the lone entry in the women's physique category and won, while the fitness pageant portion was topped by Amy Alano with Annie Tampus and Connie Quidato finishing second and third, respectively.

Results of the other categories of the 2021 Dee Clayton Classic will be published in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

NELSON

From Page 20

a USA Pickleball Association member and from the members they pick ambassadors in different regions of the country. Saipan falls into the western region governed out of California and I was appointed USAPA ambassador for the CNMI and the second ambassador in Guam," he said.

Krum admitted that pickleball borrows elements from tennis, ping-pong, and badminton.

"First of all let's talk about the difference in court sizes. We use a tennis court and we're able to stripe four pickleball courts on a [single] tennis court. So the pickleball court is the same size as a badminton court. Scoring is best two out of three games to 11 win by 2 and only the serving team can score a point. The nets are the same size as the tennis courts. They're the same height—34 inches on the middle and 36 inches on the sides," he said.

Pickleball's paddles also are somewhat similar to the paddles used in table tennis.

Asked why the sport was called pickleball, Donna Krum gave a short trip to memory lane.

"The history of pickleball started in 1965 when a couple of tennis dads in Bainbridge Island in Washington state were building tennis courts on their backyard to keep their bored kids preoccupied. While they're playing, their dog 'Pickles' kept stealing the ball and that's how the game got its name. That's also why we always have dogs in our games to remember how it started," she said.

The club held its first-ever tournament at the Capitol Hill tennis courts last Oct. 30 with Donn Dunlop and Leith Poole topping a field of 16 players after accumulating a perfect 105 points each in a round-robin format.

In a little over a year of existence, Paradise Pickleball Club has grown from five regulars to 20. It also now has three courts at the Church of Latter-day Saints along Middle Road and four courts on Capitol Hill.

Plans are also afoot to roll the game out to the CNMI's disabled community with a court being striped at the Center for Living Independently on Capitol Hill.

With over 3 million players, pickleball is arguably the fastest growing sport in the U.S. and its popularity has spread all over the world as pickleball is currently played in 57 countries—18 more countries and pickleball can qualify as an Olympic sport.

Jaguars stun Bills 9-6 in game with no touchdowns PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

'An important cause to prevent crime' PAGE 19

Iakopo, Long top women's competitions

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

One is following the footsteps of her champion bodybuilder father, while the other is carrying the hopes of an entire island as the first-ever representative of Tinian in the Dee Clayton Classic.

Filomenaleonisa Iakopo and Cielo Long did their family and home island proud after topping the figure and bikini portions, respectively, of the 2021 Dee Clayton Classic held last Saturday at the Saipan World Resort.

Iakopo, the daughter of Stanley who is a champion bodybuilder himself and the executive officer of the CNMI Office of Veterans Affairs, won the figure category after scoring 9 points from judges Jonas Barcinas, Dan Chase, and Ferdinand Lagmay.

The 15-year-old Kagman High School student said bodybuilding is just another sport in a long line of sports she's taken a liking to.

"I have a lot of sports and will definitely continue [with bodybuilding]…It has just a lot of discipline, a lot of self-control, a lot of hard work, sacrifices."

She also took time to dedicate her figure title to her parents.

"I dedicate this first to God and to my parents—my mom and my dad, who have always supported me throughout this journey. They've always been my side and asking if I'm OK. Always making sure that I'm always reaching my goals. Anybody who wants to get into health and fitness, definitely do it as it's always good for you.

Iakopo also tipped her hat to organizer Dee Clayon for holding the 10th Dee Clayton Classic.

"Thank you so much to miss Dee Clayton for having this event still even if there's this COVID. Thank you so much. It's such a good event. It went smoothly and it's perfect."

Coming in second in the figure category was Jamila Alegre (8 points), while third place went to Christina Tudela (7 points).

Long, who finished with 7 points to win the bikini category, said she just hopes to in-

See IAKOPO on Page 19

Filomenaleonisa Iakopo won the women's figure category of 2021 Dee Clayton Classic last Saturday night at the Saipan World Resort.
MICHAEL JORNAL

Cielo Long won the women's bikini category of 2021 Dee Clayton Classic last Saturday night at the Saipan World Resort.
MICHAEL JORNAL

Paradise Pickleball Club co-founder and pickleball ambassador to Saipan Nelson Krum, third from right, poses with rest of the participants of the first-ever tournament the club held last Oct. 30 at the Capitol Hill tennis courts.
MARK RABAGO

Nelson Krum named pickleball ambassador to Marianas

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Paradise Pickleball Club founder Nelson Krum has been appointed the sport's ambassador to the CNMI and Guam by the USA Pickleball Association.

Krum, who co-founded the club and introduced the sport to the Commonwealth in August last year, said he's honored about the appointment and would love introducing pickleball to the Northern Marianas to become his legacy.

"I'd love introducing a new sport in the CNMI as my legacy. To become an ambassador, you first have to become

See NELSON on Page 19

UOG ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME CEREMONY

NBA's Terry Stotts among 15 former Tritons inducted

Fifteen individuals who have made a significant impact on varsity and recreational sports at the University of Guam were inducted today into the Triton Athletics Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame Classes of 2020 and 2021 were honored at a ceremony at the Calvo Field House followed by a special ceremony for inductee Terry L. Stotts, a former Tritons basketball player and now an NBA head coach who made a special trip back to Guam for the event.

"It's been 38 years since I came back to Guam, but Guam never left me," Stotts said. "It's always been a part of who I am. I'm very proud to tell people that I lived on Guam […] and how important my time on Guam was to me."

Triton Athletics Hall of Fame inductee and 2012-2021 Portland Trail Blazers head coach Terry L. Stotts, center, with University of Guam administrators Jonas Macapinlac, left, and Lawrence Camacho at the induction ceremony on Nov. 6 at the University of Guam.
TRITON ATHLETICS

As the son of former UOG basketball coach and Triton Athletics Hall of Fame member Frank Stotts, Terry L. Stotts played for the Tritons from 1973-1974 at the young age of 16 during a time when Triton

See NBA'S on Page 19